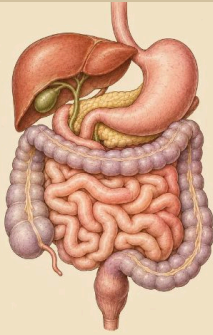


Name: _____

Date: _____

How does digestion work?



READ

Food takes a trip inside your body. It is chewed in your mouth, slides down a tube to the stomach, turns into a soft paste, travels through a very long intestine where the good stuff goes into your blood, and what is left becomes poop.

1 Which part is it? Use the words in the box.

Esophagus

Duodenum

Stomach

1. It is a tube that goes down through your chest. When you swallow, it squeezes and pushes the food down, like squeezing a toothpaste tube. _____
2. Its shape is a bit like a bag, sort of like a J. It churns the food and mixes it with a very strong juice until it turns into a soft paste. _____
3. It is the very start of the intestine, shaped like a C. Here food gets juices that help digestion, coming from the liver and pancreas. _____

2 Match each part to what it does. Write the letter.

- ☐ 1. Small intestine
- ☐ 2. Appendix
- ☐ 3. Large intestine
- ☐ 4. Rectum

- A. Holding poop until it's time to go
- B. Removing water and forming poop
- C. A small pouch at the start of the large intestine
- D. Absorbing nutrients

3 True or false? Write T or F.

- ☐ 1. **Esophagus:** churning food with acid
- ☐ 2. **Stomach:** carrying food from the mouth to the stomach
- ☐ 3. **Duodenum:** mixing food with bile and juices
- ☐ 4. **Liver:** making bile, which helps digest fat

4 Think and answer

How long does food take to digest?



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Answer key: How does digestion work?

1 Which part is it?

1. Esophagus
2. Stomach
3. Duodenum

2 Match each part to what it does.

1. D
2. C
3. B
4. A

3 True or false?

1. F (Esophagus: carrying food from the mouth to the stomach)
2. F (Stomach: churning food with acid)
3. T
4. T

4 Think and answer

Food stays 2 to 4 hours in the stomach and a few more hours in the small intestine.

