

Teeth and eating

Prior knowledge



Year 3

- ❑ Animals, including humans, need the right types and amount of nutrition and that they cannot make their own food: they get nutrition from what they eat.

Year 4

- ❑ A comparison of a variety of everyday materials on the basis of whether they are absorbent.

Knowledge and skills covered in this topic



- ❑ Children will describe the simple functions of the basic parts of the digestive system in humans.
- ❑ Children will construct and interpret a variety of food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey.

Scientific skills developed in this topic



- ❑ Ask relevant questions and use different types of scientific enquiries to answer them.
- ❑ Set up simple practical enquiries, comparative and fair tests.
- ❑ Make systematic and careful observations and, where appropriate, take accurate measurements using standard units, using a range of equipment, including thermometers and data loggers.
- ❑ Gather, record, classify and present data in a variety of ways to help in answering questions.
- ❑ Record findings using simple scientific language, drawings, labelled diagrams, keys, bar charts, tables.
- ❑ Report on findings from enquiries, including oral and written explanations, displays or presentations of results and conclusions.
- ❑ Use results to draw simple conclusions, make predictions for new values, suggest improvements and raise further questions.
- ❑ Identify differences, similarities or changes related to simple scientific ideas and processes.
- ❑ Use straightforward scientific evidence to answer questions or to support findings.

Key words



- Canine:** A pointed, conical shaped tooth, next to the incisors, for gripping and tearing food.
- Carnivores:** Animals that eat meat, such as lions, whose main way of getting food is to kill and eat other animals, or to scavenge their dead flesh.
- Decay:** To gradually destroy and rot. This is what happens when teeth aren't cared for.
- Digestion:** Breaking down food.
- Enamel:** The hard covering of the tooth.
- Energy:** Used to help us move, grow and repair our body.
- Herbivores:** Animals that only eat plants e.g. butterflies, snails, cows, deer, pandas, etc.
- Incisor:** A flat, sharp edged tooth at the front of the mouth for biting and cutting food.
- Large intestine:** The part of the digestive system through which food passes once it has left the small intestine. It absorbs water and stores undigested food.
- Molar:** A large tooth at the back of the mouth used for chewing and grinding food.
- Mouth:** Where digestion starts and food gets into the body.
- Nutrients:** Useful chemicals found in foods that animals need for healthy growth, movement, repair and general good health.
- Oesophagus:** The food pipe that carries the food from the mouth to the stomach.
- Omnivores:** Animals that eat all kinds of food, including both meat and plants e.g. humans.
- Small intestine:** The thin tube where broken down food is absorbed into the body.
- Stomach:** A bag of muscle in the body where food is digested before going in the intestines.

