

## Answer Key

### Mouth:

In the mouth, saliva has 2 important roles. What are they?

1. lubricates the food for easier chewing and swallowing
2. chemically breaks down certain carbohydrates in the meal

What parts of the mouth assist in moving food to the next part of the digestive system?

The movement of the jaw and tongue help to swallow the food.

### Esophagus:

How long is an average adult's esophagus? about 10 inches long

How do the muscles in the esophagus move food through the digestive tract?

muscles in the walls of the esophagus move in a wavy way to slowly squeeze the food through the esophagus and into your stomach

### Stomach:

Scroll down and go to the **second** page. Look for the heading

**"See You in the Stomach,"** to answer the following questions:

What are three important jobs the stomach has?

to store the food you've eaten

to break down the food into a liquidy mixture

to slowly empty that liquidy mixture into the small intestine

### Stomach 2:

On this page, read the first paragraph under the title "All about the Abdomen," and answer the first question.

What are all of the organs that make up the abdomen? bladder, kidneys, liver, spleen, pancreas, gallbladder, appendix, and adrenal glands; If you're a girl, your abdomen also includes your uterus and ovaries.

**Scroll down and go to the second page.**

What are the six main causes of belly pain? **constipation, diarrhea, infections around the body, food, appendicitis, stress,**

**Scroll down and go to the third page.**

What are some ways to prevent a bellyache?

**Don't overeat.**

**Eat fiber-rich foods, such as fruits and vegetables, so your bowel movements are regular.**

**Wash your hands before eating.**

**Don't eat right before bedtime.**

**Get lots of sleep so your body doesn't get run down.**

**Small Intestine:**

**On the left side, there is a menu. Click on the words "small intestine."**

What is the main job of the small intestine? **breaking down the food mixture so your body can absorb all the nutrients it needs from food - vitamins, minerals, proteins, carbohydrates, and fats.**

What are the other body parts that help the small intestine do its job?

**pancreas, the liver, and the gallbladder**

What is the purpose of the **villi** in the small intestine? **absorb the chemicals that we need from the food into the body and pass through the wall of the small intestine and into the blood**

**Large Intestine:**

What happens to the liquid mix that moves from the small intestine to the large intestine?

**absorbed into the blood**

How long can waste stay in the large intestine? **anywhere from 10 hours up to several days**

