

Digestive System Notes – Key

| Organ | Mouth | Esophagus | Stomach | Small Intestine | Large Intestine |
|--|---|--|---|---|--|
| What happens here during digestion? | Food is torn into smaller pieces by chewing and is mixed with saliva. Saliva starts to break down carbohydrates (starches). | Food is squeezed down the esophagus and into the stomach by peristalsis. | Small pieces of food are mixed with digestive juices, including hydrochloric acid; acids begins to break down proteins. | The majority of digestion occurs here; fats, proteins, and carbohydrates are broken into small, different molecules. The absorption of molecules into the bloodstream occurs here. | Water is reabsorbed into the body. Bacteria help break down undigested materials and help produce vitamins. |
| Picture/illustration of organ | Student drawings will vary. | Student drawings will vary. | Student drawings will vary. | Student drawings will vary. | Student drawings will vary. |

| List three functions of the digestive system | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| The breaking down of food into pieces that are usable by the body's cells | Absorption of small food molecules into the blood stream through the small intestine's villi | Reabsorption of water back into the body by the large intestine |

