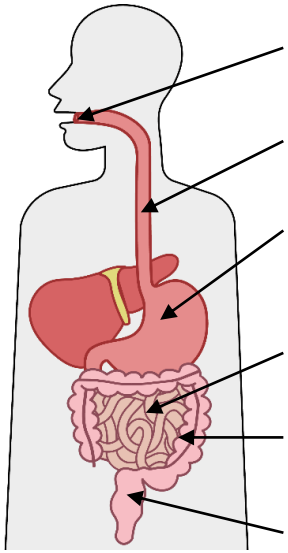
Food & Digestion

Digestion

The food that animals eat needs to be broken down into very small parts, so that they can be absorbed into the blood and used around the body. The process of breaking food down is called **digestion**.



The **mouth** contains **teeth**, which start to break down the food.

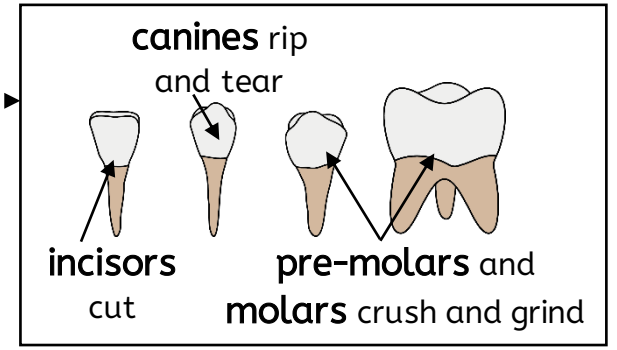
The **oesophagus** is a tube that connects mouth and stomach.

The **stomach** churns food and contains substances that break down the food chemically.

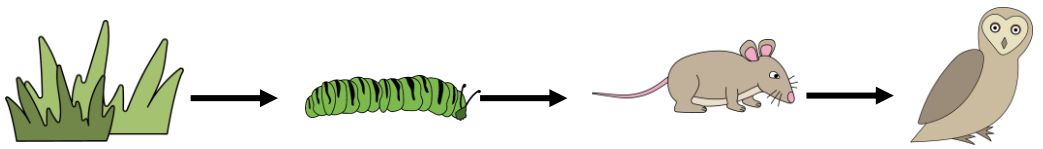
The **small intestine** breaks down food chemically. Here, nutrients are absorbed into the blood.

In the **large intestine**, water from undigested food is absorbed into the blood.

Undigested food – **faeces** (poo!) – is stored in the **rectum** until it is ready to be passed through the **anus**.



Feeding relationships

An **ecosystem** is all the organisms living in an area and the non-living features of the environment, such as precipitation, temperature, wind, soil and sunlight.

In an ecosystem, there are many feeding relationships. These can be shown through **food chains** or food webs.