

# The Human Body Detectives Need Your Help!

Solve the mystery of the missing words. Robbie is at it again. He has eaten up some of the words in this text about digestion. See if you can help Merrin and Pearl put the words back where they belong. Good luck!

It all starts with that first bite of delicious fruit salad. Your \_\_\_\_\_ glands go right to work producing a much needed supply of liquid as your teeth chew and your \_\_\_\_\_ begins to push the chewed food, called a \_\_\_\_\_, toward the back of your throat.

Next, your muscles move the mushy mass of food into a tube called the \_\_\_\_\_. The muscles in your esophagus begin squeezing without you even knowing. This strong muscle action is called \_\_\_\_\_.

As the muscles squeeze the food down your esophagus, a small valve opens and the food drops directly into the \_\_\_\_\_. Hydrochloric acid squirts down on the food as your strong stomach muscles continue to flex, breaking the food into even smaller bits. These then pass into the \_\_\_\_\_.

Digestive juices are sent from the liver, pancreas and gallbladder to continue to break down the food. The small intestine looks like a forest filled with pink fingers called \_\_\_\_\_. These absorb large amounts of \_\_\_\_\_ from the food that you eat. From here the nutrients will flow directly into your \_\_\_\_\_.

The leftovers that your body will not use then travel into a larger tube called the \_\_\_\_\_. The end is near, my friend. It is time for the waste, which is called a \_\_\_\_\_, to leave your body. You might think this sounds gross, but when this happens it brings relief!

The End.  
Really!

small intestine  
bolus  
large intestine  
esophagus

stool  
peristalsis  
tongue  
stomach

nutrients  
villi  
salivary  
bloodstream