



The Glovely Digestion Model

Lesson Logistics

Learning Outcomes

Grades 4-6	
Meeting basic needs and maintaining a healthy body	

Class Organization

Divide the students into groups of three or four.

Ensure that each group has a Student Handout.

One Glovely Digestion model will be constructed per class.

Notes

This activity has a fairly high start-up cost and time commitment. However, once the model has been built, it will last for years and only minor components will need to be replaced for future demonstrations.

Lay a garbage bag underneath the model to facilitate clean up.

It is recommended to have a container of water handy in order to refill the salivary glands as needed. An appropriate receptacle for the disposal of the stomach waste is also suggested.

Cookie sandwiches used for the demonstration should be made a few hours prior to performing the activity.

Further Exploration

How Food is Digested

Before the model is presented, arrange the students into groups of three or four to brainstorm what they think happens to food once it enters the body. Assign one student per group to be the official recorder who will write key words and draw pictures onto a large sheet of paper to explain the groups' ideas. The students may be provided with a small snack to eat, which may help guide them through this process of exploration. The students can display their ideas by posting the papers on the classroom walls, and each group can nominate one or two students to present their ideas to the class. Assess the initial ideas and encourage the students to identify similarities and differences among the hypotheses presented.





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Parts of the Digestive System

Provide the students with the unlabeled digestive system diagram included in the *Student Handout* and challenge them to find the appropriate names and functions of the body parts. Encourage the students to support their labels with explanations provided from the body part function cards from the *Student Handout*. As a class, discuss the order of the parts of the digestive system.