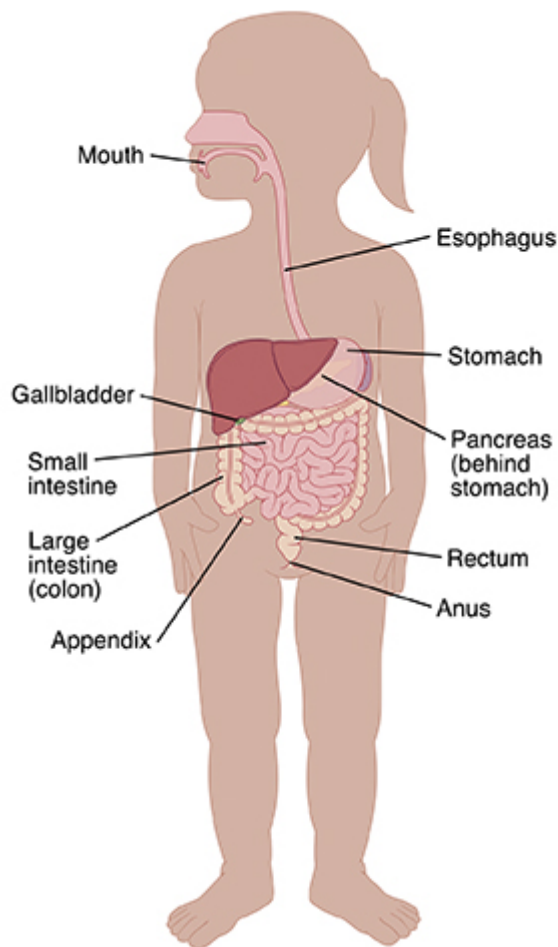


Anatomy of the Digestive System (Child)



The digestive system breaks food down into basic nutrients that can be used by the body. As food moves through the digestive tract, it's digested (broken down into parts and absorbed into the bloodstream). Certain organs, such as the liver, gallbladder, and pancreas, help with this digestion. Parts of food that can't be digested become stool. This is waste material that's passed out of the body.



Digestive system

- The **mouth** takes in food and breaks it into pieces. It starts the process of digestion.
- The **esophagus** moves food from the mouth to the stomach.
- The **stomach** breaks food down into a liquid mixture.
- The **small intestine** digests food further and absorbs nutrients. What's left is passed on to the colon as liquid waste.
- The **large intestine** (colon) absorbs water, salt, and other minerals from liquid waste, forming a solid stool.
- The **rectum** stores stool until a bowel movement occurs.
- The **anus** is the opening where stool leaves the body.

- The **liver** makes bile (a fluid that helps digest fat). It also breaks down nutrients and stores energy.
- The **gallbladder** stores bile.
- The **pancreas** makes enzymes that help with digestion.
- The **appendix** is a small, hollow structure that's attached to the large intestine. It has no clear function in the body. But it can become blocked and infected.

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