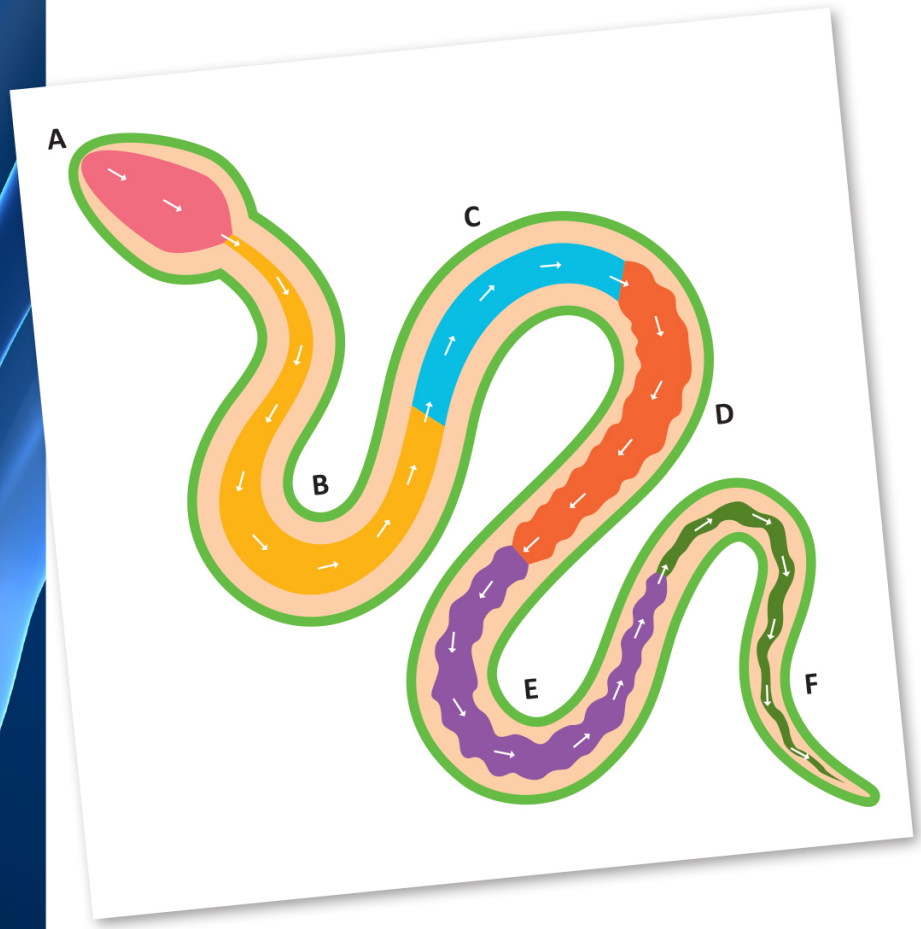
Snake digestive system



A Mouth

A snake doesn't chew its food. Instead, it swallows its prey whole. A snake can unhinge its jaws to stretch around animals much bigger than its own head!

B Oesophagus

Food travels from the snake's mouth through a tube called the oesophagus. The oesophagus is strong and stretchy to help the snake move its large meal to its stomach.

C Stomach

A snake's stomach is also strong and stretchy. Inside, very powerful acids dissolve the food, including animal bones. However, hair and claws can't be digested.

D Small intestine

Once food has been broken down, it is passed to the small intestine. Here, bile from the liver, and digestive enzymes from the pancreas are added to the food. This helps the snake to absorb nutrients.

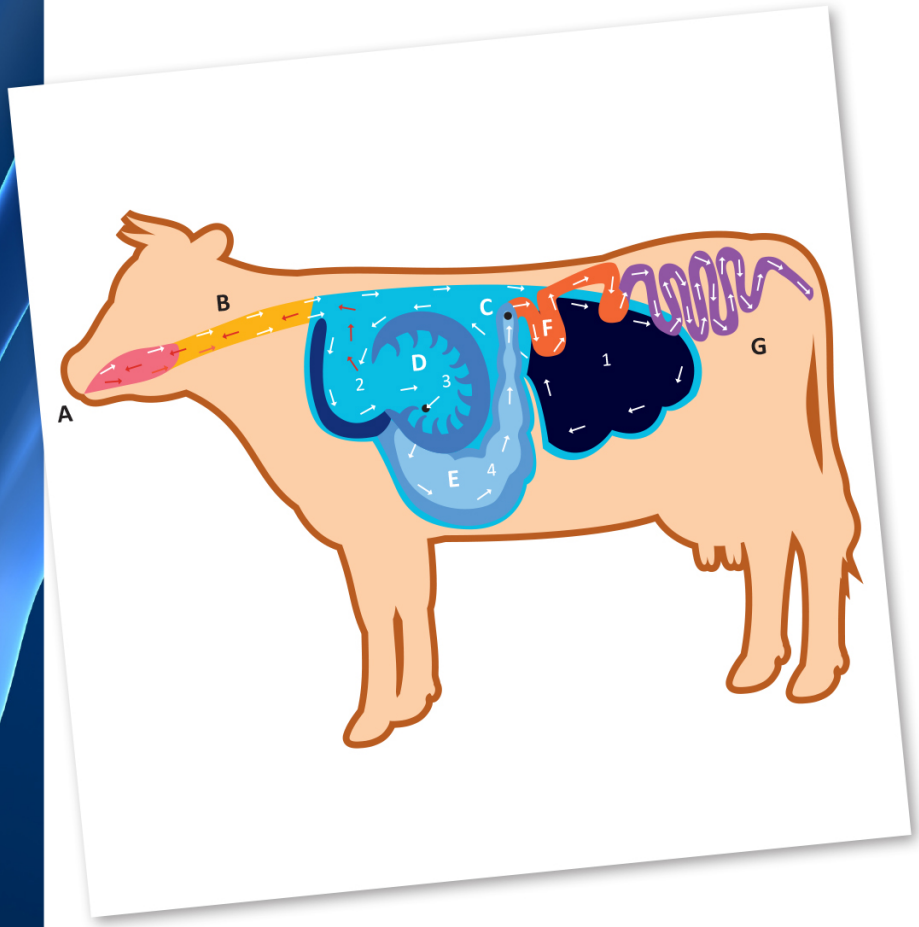
E Large intestine

The large intestine absorbs any remaining nutrients and water, leaving waste products that can't be used by the snake.

F Cloaca

Waste products then move to the cloaca. Here, they mix with waste from the urinary system (the system that deals with wee). Faeces (poo) and the mixed-in urine (wee) leave the snake's body through the cloaca.

Cow digestive system



A Mouth

A cow uses its tongue to grasp and gather grass. It chews the grass, mixing it with plenty of saliva before swallowing. This mixture is called a bolus.

B Oesophagus

The bolus travels from the cow's mouth to the stomach, through a tube called the oesophagus.

C Stomach

The bolus enters the cow's stomach that is split into four chambers. It reaches the **rumen (1)** first where it mixes with digestive bacteria. The mixture then moves to the **reticulum (2)** from which large, undigested particles of food are regurgitated and chewed again.

D Stomach

Food then travels to the **omasum (3)** which acts as a filter. Small particles of food travel on to the **abomasum (4)** while larger particles go back to the **reticulum (2)**.

E Stomach

In the **abomasum (4)** or 'true stomach', digestive enzymes are added to the food. This prepares the food to enter the small intestine.

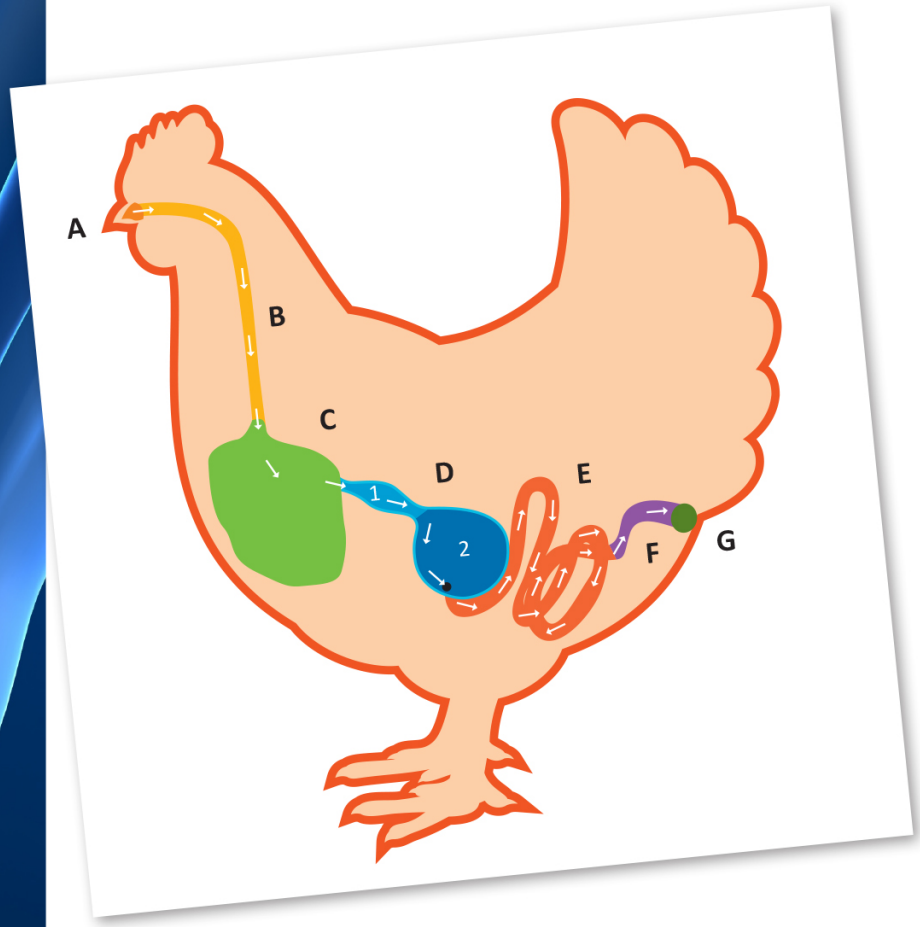
F Small intestine

Bile from the liver and enzymes from the pancreas are added to the food in the small intestine. This helps the cow to absorb nutrients and water.

G Large intestine

The large intestine absorbs any remaining nutrients. Leftover water and waste products leave the large intestine, passing out of the anus as faeces (poo).

Chicken digestive system



A Beak

A chicken pecks at food with its beak. It cannot chew food as it has no teeth. The food mixes with saliva in the chicken's mouth.

B Oesophagus

Food travels from the chicken's mouth through a tube called the oesophagus.

C Crop

At the bottom of the oesophagus is a pouch called a crop. The crop stores food and slowly passes it to the stomach.

D Stomach

A chicken has two parts to its stomach: **1) proventriculus** and **2) gizzard**. The proventriculus adds digestive enzymes to food, and the gizzard grinds the food. Chickens swallow grit that collects in the gizzard. This grit helps to grind the food.

E Small intestine

Once the food has been broken down, it is passed to the small intestine. Here, bile from the liver and enzymes from the pancreas are added to the food. This helps the chicken to absorb nutrients.

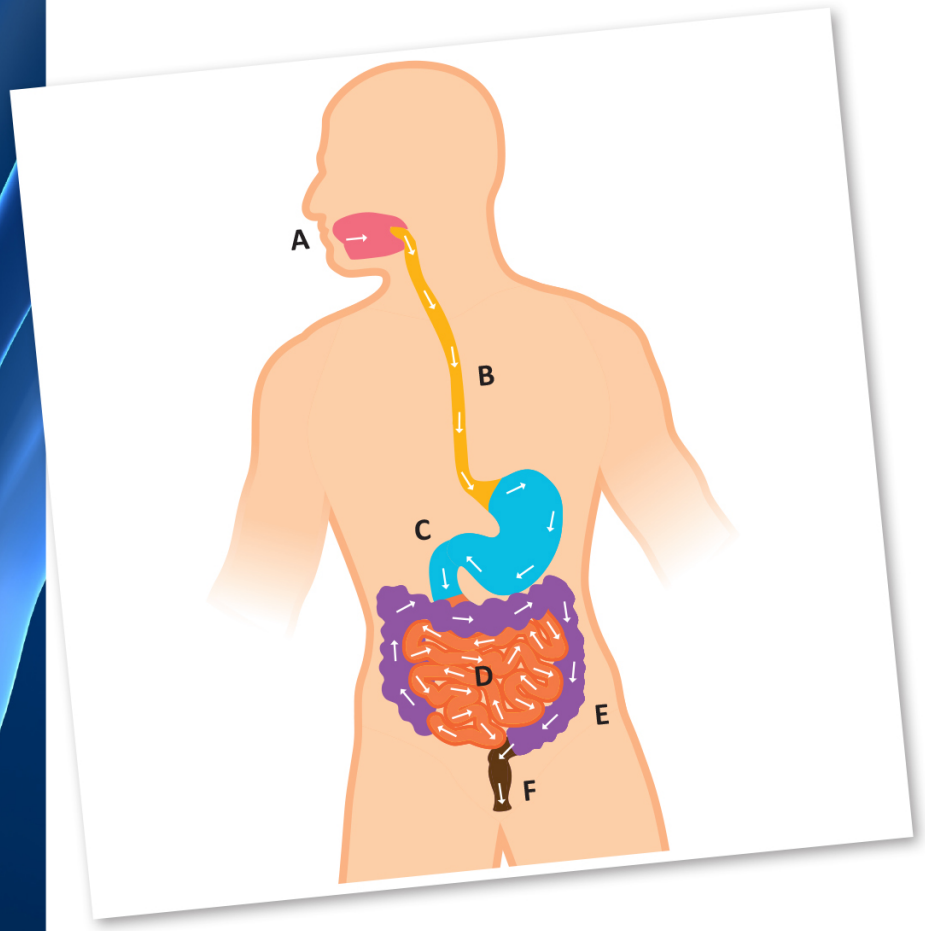
F Large intestine

The large intestine absorbs any remaining nutrients and water, leaving waste products that cannot be used by the chicken.

G Cloaca

Waste products then move to the cloaca. Here, they mix with waste from the urinary system (the system that deals with wee). Faeces (poo) and the mixed in urine (wee) leave the chicken's body through the cloaca.

Human digestive system



A Mouth

Teeth chew food into small pieces. These pieces mix with saliva that contains enzymes, to start digestion.

B Oesophagus

The oesophagus is a tube that transports food from the mouth to the stomach.

C Stomach

The stomach is like a food blender. It is a hollow, muscular bag that contains acids and enzymes, that break food down.

D Small intestine

Most digestion takes place in the small intestine where nutrients from the food are absorbed into the blood.

E Large intestine

The large intestine removes excess water from the indigestible waste to make solid faeces (poo).

F Rectum

The rectum is the part of the large intestine where faeces is stored, ready to leave the body.