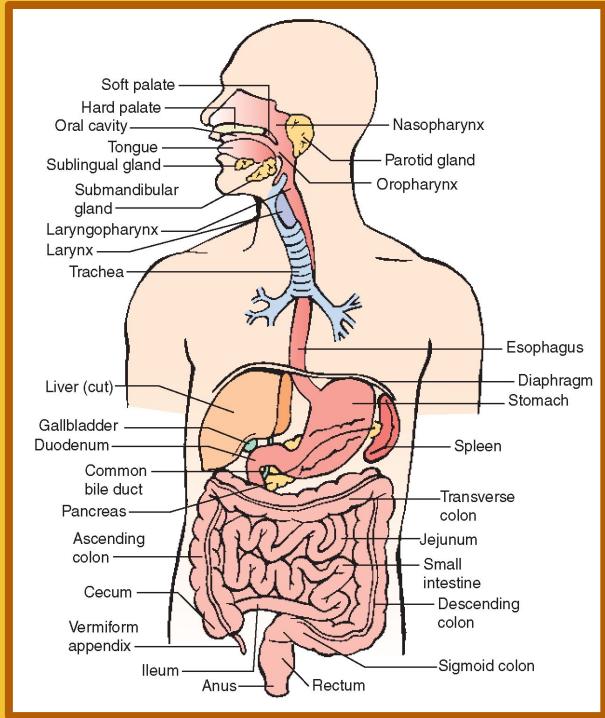


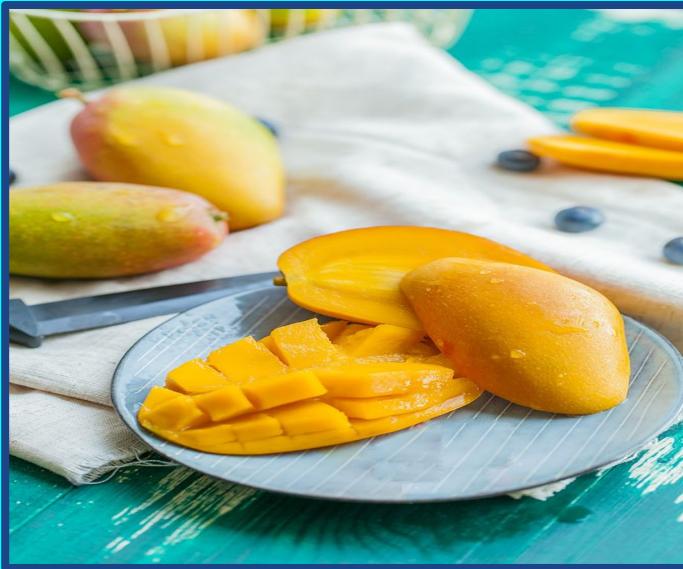
# Adventures of a mango in the digestive system.



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Science  
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Today I will be taking an adventure through Doron's digestive system. I will start in the mouth go down the esophagus into the stomach then the small and large intestines ending my voyage in the rectum and anus. This adventure will take me 24 - 72 hours to complete. So lets gooooooo!



## Habitats of the mouth

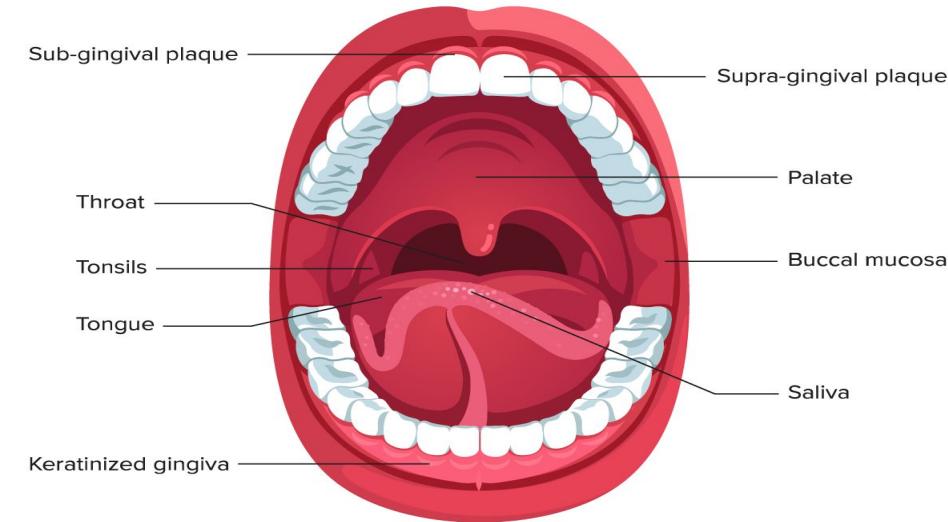
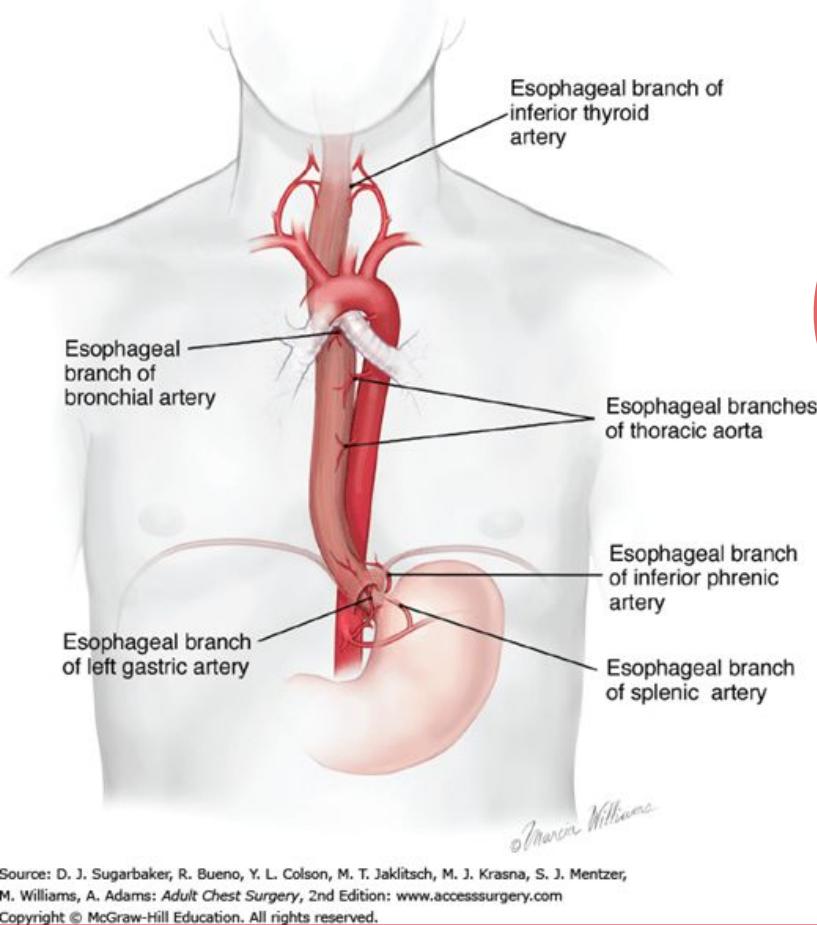


ILLUSTRATION: ICONIC BESTIARY / SHUTTERSTOCK

KNOWABLE MAGAZINE

In phase one of my adventure I am going to enter a dark tunnel called the mouth. The teeth feel sharp chomping me down as mechanical digestion begins. The soft slippery tongue pushes me all around helping the teeth and also a watery substance called saliva is making me soft. The saliva is chemical digestion that contains water mucus and enzymes that are helping break me down so I can be ready for phase two of my adventure.



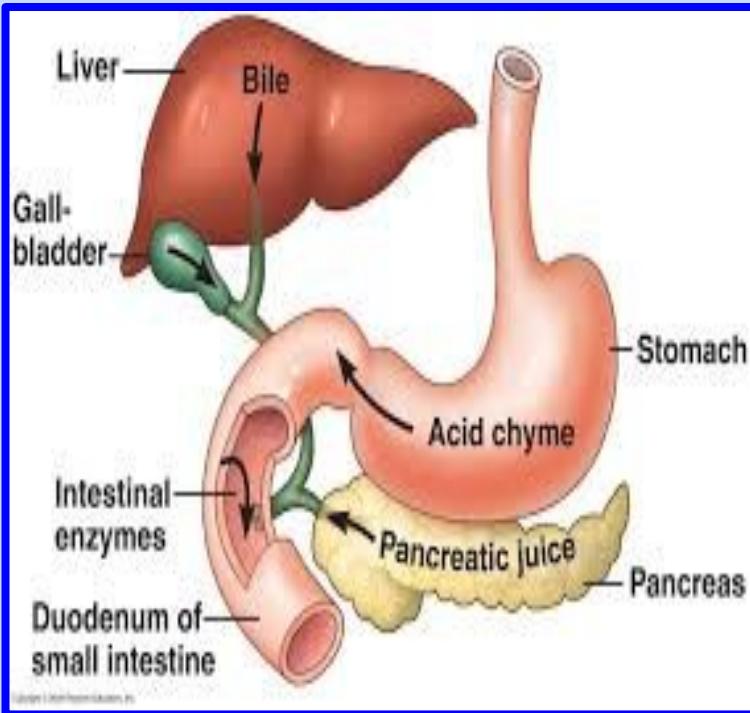
This is so exciting! There is a huge slide  
Im gonna jump onto it in 3 2 1  
weeeeeeee! This is the esophagus.  
There is the epiglottis covering the  
windpipe so I don't make Doron choke  
and I keep on the right path. Wow the  
walls here are so smooth, moist, and the  
peristalsis here is giving me the best  
massage ever. This just might be my  
favorite part of the trip.

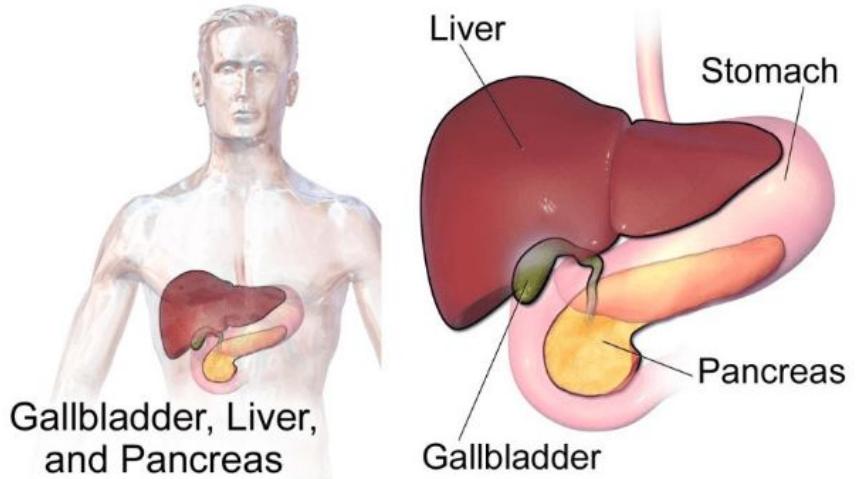


Here I am entering this big muscular bag called the stomach. Mechanical digestion will continue by peristalsis and a little chemical digestion will start too. I feel like I'm caught in a windstorm with all these enzymes and hydrochloric acid solution breaking me down so much that I'm turning into a liquid called chyme. This feels really weird but I knew I was in for an adventure.



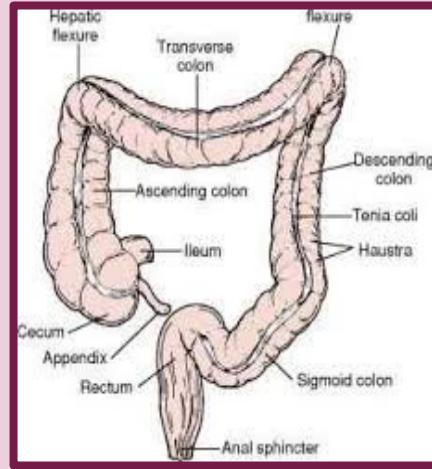
The stomach has released me into the segment of the small intestine called the duodenum. There is a lot going on in here. I am in bile juice mixed with pancreatic juices and topped with intestinal juices. The enzymes in these juices complete the process of digestion. Pancreatic enzymes break down sugars, fats, and starches. They are very important and aid in chemical digestion. Although I don't go through the pancreas in the digestive process the pancreas is definitely involved. It is located behind the stomach and is attached to it. There are also these finger-like projections called villi here. They are sucking up and absorbing all my nutrients like a vacuum cleaner. It really tickles.

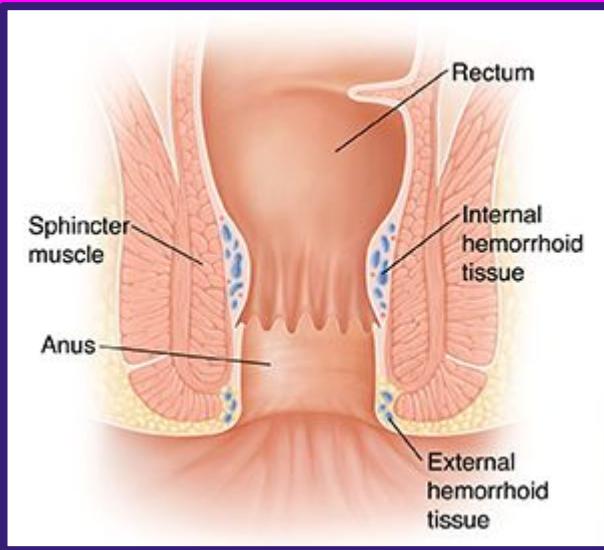




As a mango going through the digestive system I am learning quite a bit about the organs in the body and how they help in my journey. For instance, even though I don't pass through the liver, gallbladder, and the pancreas these organs help with chemical digestion in the small intestine. The liver makes a digestive juice called bile that helps break fats down. This bile passes to the gallbladder which stores it for later use. When Doron digests fatty food the gallbladder will release the bile. This juice passes through a narrow tube and goes to the first section of your small intestine called the duodenum. The pancreas also has a tube that carries enzymes from it to the small intestine. It allows food pieces like me to pass through the walls of your small intestine and into your blood in the form of energy. This is not just an adventure but also a great learning experience for me. Hope your having as much fun as I am.

Here I am as chyme entering the large intestine (colon). I'm almost at the end of my adventure. The large intestine is absorbing the water I have left over and it's turning me into feces. This is how the large intestine maintains homeostasis. I will be here for about 35 hours or until this system is ready to let me out.





Here I am being moved for the last time into the rectum. I am now a stool. The rectum is doing a little stretch so I can fit in. It is on a weird angle, this is probably so I don't fall out and hurt myself. I'm being prepared for my exit through the anus. The anus is an opening that will allow me to leave the body with help from several muscles that will increase pressure and help push me out. The anal sphincter will control when I am pushed out.



SPLASH !! Hey I'm out.... Wow this swimming pool is really cold. Oh my !! It's a whirl pool this is so much fun... That was the best adventure I ever had. Hope I taught you something. Bye !!!