

# Teeth

## Science Knowledge Organiser Year 4 Term 2

### Key questions

What types of teeth do humans have and what are their functions?

What is enamel?

What can cause tooth decay?

What type of tooth would a carnivore need more of and why?

### Key people

**Pierre Fauchard** (1678-1761) became known as the "father of modern dentistry; He introduced dental fillings as treatment for dental cavities

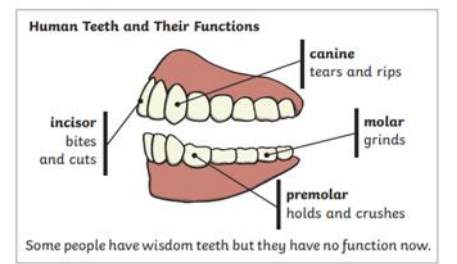
### Key Knowledge - what I should know already...

That teeth are part of the digestive system, be able to explain what a function of an organ is, have the knowledge of food chains and food webs, understand why animals need to eat, understand what a herbivore (eats plants), a carnivore (eats meat) and an omnivore (eats plants and meat) is.

### Key Knowledge – what will I know at the end of this unit?

What types of teeth do humans have and what are their functions?	Incisors - Cut food like a knife Canines - rips and tear food Premolars - holds and crushes food up Molars - Crush and grind food up, help to swallow food. Wisdom - No function now, some scientists think that human ancestors needed a third molar to help grind down plant tissue from thicker leaves when humans still ate them. Since the diet of humans has changed we don't need them.	What can cause tooth decay?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consuming too many sugary drinks and food.</li> <li>Not brushing your teeth twice a day using fluoride toothpaste.</li> <li>Not regularly visiting the dentist.</li> </ul>
What is enamel?	Teeth are covered with a protective layer called enamel. It is the hardest substance produced in your body. This material covers each tooth and provides a tough outer layer. The surface of your teeth is made of enamel, giving them their distinct look. Enamel protects the inner, more fragile areas of your teeth, known as dentin and pulp. Enamel is important in preventing tooth decay. .	What type of tooth would a carnivore need more of at why?	As carnivores eat only meat this need more or bigger canine teeth to help them rip and tear through their food.
What can cause tooth decay?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consuming too many sugary drinks and food.</li> <li>Not brushing your teeth twice a day using fluoride toothpaste.</li> <li>Not regularly visiting the dentist.</li> </ul>	<b>Investigate</b>	
What drink causes the worst tooth decay and does toothpaste help stop the decay? - Investigation using eggs, drinks and foods such as cola, vinegar, water, milk and orange juice. Half an egg covered in toothpaste half not and submerged into the different drinks and food for a week.			

### Diagrams



### Key vocabulary

Molar	A tooth for grinding food at the back of the mouth.
Incisor	A tooth for biting food, at the front of the mouth.
Canine	A tooth for gripping food, a pointy tooth.
Decay	Rot or decompose through the action of bacteria and fungi. This is what happens to teeth when they are not cared for.
Gum	The firm area of flesh around the roots of the teeth in the upper and lower jaw.
Plaque	Film of bacteria and saliva that forms on teeth.
Bacteria	Microscopic organisms that often play a role in the decay of living things.
Enamel	The hard covering for the tooth
Cavity	A decayed part of a tooth
Dentine	Hard dense bony tissue forming the bulk of a tooth, beneath the enamel.
Pulp	Tooth pulp is soft and consists of living blood vessels, connective tissue, and large nerves.
Root	The part of a tooth below the neck of the tooth

### Useful web links

<http://www.childrensuniversity.manchester.ac.uk/interactives/science/teethandeating/> an informative site which will deepen the children's understanding of teeth.

