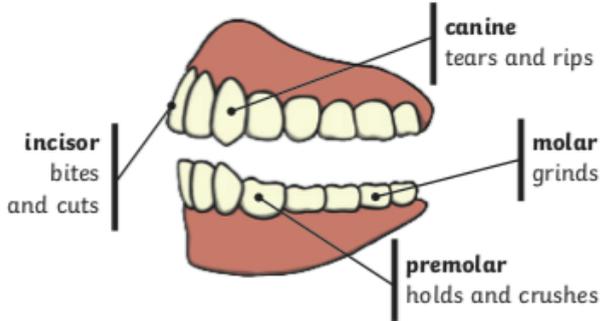




Human teeth and their functions

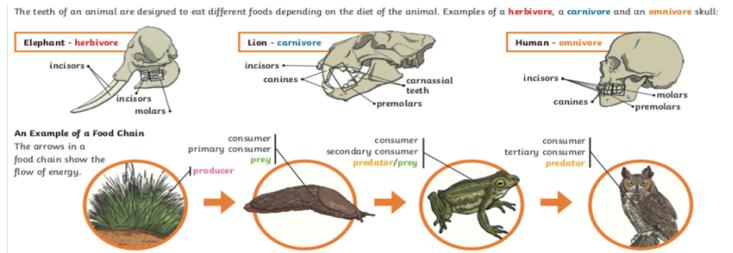
Human Teeth and Their Functions



Humans have up to **32 adult teeth**, made up of 4 different types. Each of these types has an important job. **Incisors** (at the front) are used to cut food. **Canines** are used to tear food. **Premolars** are used to crush food and **molars** (at the back) are used to grind food. Our teeth are like this because we are **carnivores**. Different animals have different layouts depending on their food.

Animals and their food chains

Animals cannot create their own food; they must eat in order to get nutrition. Because of this, animals are called **consumers**. Animals and humans follow certain **food chain** dynamics. Food chains show how each living thing gets food, and how nutrients are passed from **producers** through different consumers. Producers are able to make their own food (for example plants through photosynthesis). Primary consumers are animals that eat producers. Secondary consumer consumers are animals that eat primary consumers (animals that eat animals). Each plant and animal in the food chain is affected by the others.



Careers

Washington Sheffield was an American dentist, and he was famous for inventing the first modern toothpaste in a tube.



Dental Care

Most children start to develop **milk teeth** from around the age of 6 months old and there are 20 milk teeth in total. Milk teeth are also known as baby or deciduous teeth. Most children have a complete set of milk teeth by the age of 2. Once you begin to **brush**, you must brush all of your teeth, not just the front ones. Spend some time on the teeth along the sides and in the back. Have your dentist show you the best way to brush to get your teeth clean without damaging your **gums**. Take your time while brushing. Spend at least **2 or 3 minutes** each time you brush. You can also use **disclosure** tablets to check for plaque residue and see what areas you need to brush more or better.

To help prevent tooth decay:

- limit sugary food and drink;
- brush teeth at least twice daily using a fluoride toothpaste;
- visit your dentist regularly.



Read all about it. Can you find these books in the local library?

Key Vocabulary



Canine, carnivores, decay, digestion, enamel, energy, herbivore, incisor, intestine, large intestine, molar, mouth, nutrients, oesophagus, omnivore, small intestine, stomach.

