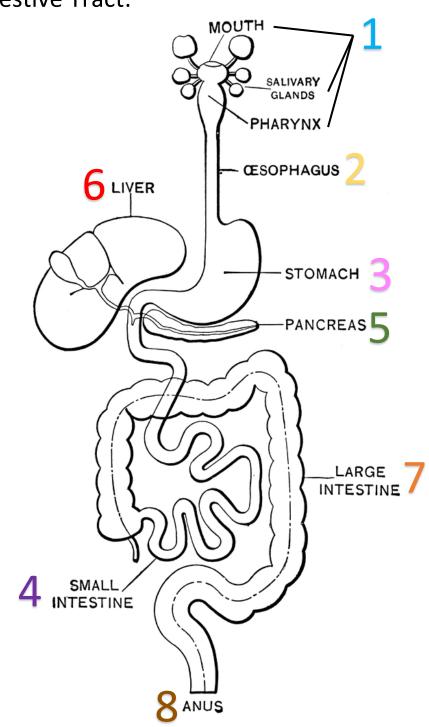
The Digestive System!

The digestive system breaks down the food we eat into smaller and smaller pieces allowing us to absorb nutrients and get rid of waste.

Let's Color the Digestive Tract:

- 1. *BLUE*
- 2. YELLOW
- 3. *PINK*
- 4. PURPLE
- 5. GREEN
- 6. *RED*
- 7. ORANGE
- 8. BROWN



When you eat, you put food into your **mouth (1)** and chew it into pieces. When you swallow, pieces of food move down the **esophagus (2)**. As food moves through the **stomach (3)** and **small intestine (4)**, it breaks down into even smaller pieces tiny enough to feed the cells in your body. The **pancreas (5)** and **liver (6)** are what help break down your food into the smaller pieces your cells need. Parts of the food that cells don't use keep moving through your **large intestine (7)** and finally out of your body through the **anus (8)**.

1. Why is the digestive system important?

2. If the small intestine was removed, what would happen to the digestive system?

3. Do you think all animals have the same digestive tract? Why or why not?

There are two different types of plankton:

4. Our oceans depend on the digestive systems of whales. Whales eat some of the smallest organisms in the world called plankton.

PhytoplanktonZooplankton"plant" plankton – performs
photosynthesis"animal" plankton – consumes other
organisms for energyGreen/brown in colorMany different colorsFound in upper sunlight layer of oceanFound in many different layers in the
oceanReleases oxygenConsumes oxygen

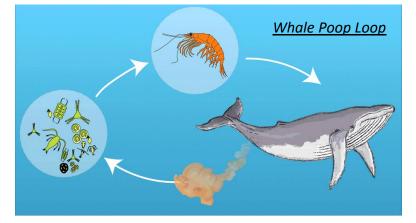
Looking at the diagram above, phytoplankton receives energy from the ______.

Zooplankton eats ______ and a humpback whale eats ______.

5. Just like humans, whales poop once food travels through their entire digestive tract. Baleen whales' poop provides A LOT of nutrients to the ocean, giving whales

the name "farmers of the ocean." Their poop provides the nutrients phytoplankton need to grow and survive.

Phytoplankton are incredibly important because they give us most of the oxygen we breathe, about 70%!



Watch this video! <u>https://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/til/00000159-0493-db34-a5d9-85b730170000</u>

a. Without whale poop we would not have ______.

b. Without phytoplankton we would not have ______ to breathe.

Draw and label your own whale poop loop below!





