



# TERM 1: LIFE AND LIVING

## Glossary

Word/term	Explanation
Appendicular skeleton	Collarbone, shoulder and arms, legs, pelvis
Absorption	Nutrients are absorbed in the bloodstream.
Veins	Blood vessels that transport deoxygenated blood from the body to the heart.
Assimilation	Absorbed nutrients are used in life processes.
Axis skeleton	Skull, sternum, ribs and spine
Fertilisation	The fusion of a sperm cell and egg cell.
Platelets	Ingredient of blood that helps blood to clot.
Plasma	Ingredient of blood responsible for the transport of nutrients, waste products and gases.
Bolus	Chewed food rolled in a ball.
Chemical digestion	Chemical process during which food is broken into the smallest particles.
Diffusion	The process whereby molecules move from an area with a high pressure to an area with a low pressure.
Digestion	Food is broken down and absorbed.
Egestion	Waste products are excreted.
Ejaculation	The release of semen from the penis.
Endoskeleton	Skeleton inside the body.
Exoskeleton	Skeleton on the outside of the body.
Balanced diet	Sufficient amount of food is consumed in the correct ratio.
Haemoglobin	A pigment in red blood cells to which oxygen binds.
Ingestion	The intake of food



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Interneuron	Connects sensory neurons and motor neurons.
Copulation	The hardened penis is placed inside the vagina.
Cartilage	Type of binding tissue that covers bones in the joints.
Ligament	Bones in joints are held together by ligaments.
Mastication	The chewing of food.
Mechanical digestion	Physical process whereby food is broken into smaller parts.
Motor neuron	Conducts impulses from the brain and spine to other muscles for movement.
Nutrients	Food
Oxyhaemoglobin	Oxygen bonded to haemoglobin.
Underfeeding	Too few nutrients are ingested.
Unbalanced diet	Sufficient amount of food is ingested, but in the wrong ratio.
Overfeeding	Too many nutrients are ingested.
Organ	A group of tissues that function together.
Organism	A group of systems that function together.
Osmoregulation	It is the physiological processes that an organism uses to maintain water balance.
Ovulation	The monthly release of an ovum by the ovaries.
Peristalsis	The involuntary muscle contractions during which the bolus/chyme move to the following digestive organ.



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Red blood cells	Cells that transport oxygen throughout the body.
Tendons	Attach muscles to bones.
Sensory neuron	Conducts impulses from sensory organs to the brain and spine.
Nerve cells	Cells that conduct electrical impulses b.m.o. the nerve of the spinal cord.
Arteries	Blood vessels that transport oxygen-rich blood from the heart to the body.
Muscle cells	These cells contract and relax and make movement possible.
Chyme	The mixture of food and gastric juices
Stem cells	Undifferentiated cells that possess the ability to divide and develop into a large variety of cells.
System	A group of organs that function together.
Villi	Hair-like growths in the small intestine that help with absorption.
Nutrition	The process where living organisms obtain energy through the intake of food to allow life processes to happen.
Malnutrition	The shortage of one nutrient, but the excess intake of another nutrient.
Tissue	A group of cells that function together for a specific purpose.
White blood cells	Cells in blood that offer protection against diseases and fight infection.