

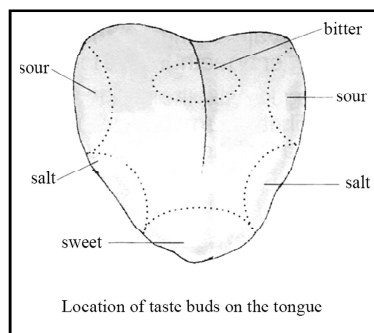
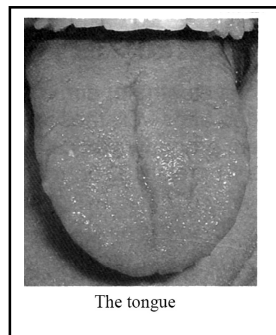
## LESSON No. 12



# TONGUE, TEETH AND BEAKS

### Which part of your body helps you in taste?

It is your tongue. Your tongue is covered with thousands of tiny “taste buds”. The taste buds on the tongue help us to identify the taste of food. Different parts of the tongue are sensitive to different flavours. The back side of our tongue identifies the bitter taste, while the front side identifies the sweet taste. When you eat something, the taste buds send messages to the brain. Your brain tells you what flavours you are tasting.



Does your tongue perform any other function other than tasting food.

Your tongue also helps you to speak and pronounce different sounds. It also helps in swallowing food. Many animals such as dogs and cats, use their tongue to clean their body. A dog also uses its tongue to cool itself. When a dog hangs out its tongue, the saliva on the tongue evaporates and it cools its body.



### **Does your mother tell you to chew the food and eat?**

If you do not chew the food before swallowing it, the food does not get broken and this leads to indigestion. Teeth helps us to chew our food properly. Food can be digested only when it is chewed well. Babies do not have teeth to break and chew the food. They have to be fed with food that is soft. Teeth give shape to our face. As people grow old and lose their teeth the shape of their face also changes.

### **Kinds of teeth:**

#### **How many teeth do you have? Observe it.**

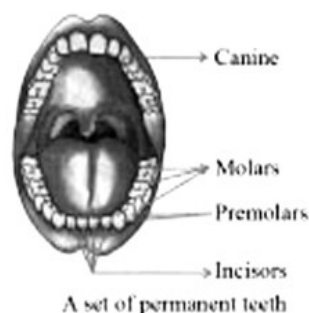
Children have 20 teeth when they were 3 years old. The first set of teeth is called the milk teeth. Milk teeth begin to fall when they are 6 years old and new teeth start appearing in its place. The new teeth are called permanent teeth. An adult has 32 permanent teeth. There are four types of teeth in our mouth. Each type of teeth has its own use.



### **Types of teeth:**

**Incisors:-** There are 8 incisors in the front, four on the upper jaw and four on the lower jaw. They help us to bite the food.

**Canines:-** Canines are teeth next to the incisors. They are sharp and pointed. They are used for tearing food. There are 4 canines together in our mouth.



**Premolars:-** Premolars are teeth at the back of the mouth. They are flat and wide. They crush and grind the food. There are 8 premolars.

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**Molars:** There are 3 molars on either side of the mouth in both upper and lower jaws. They also are flat and wide. They do the same work as premolars. Altogether there are 12 molars.

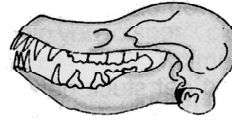
If you notice cavities in your teeth you must ask your parents to take you to a dentist. The dentist can stop the cavities from growing by filling them up. Brush your teeth at least twice a day, one in the morning and one at night.

### Teeth of Animals:

Many animals have teeth and chew their food like us. Carnivorous animals such as tiger or dog have sharp, pointed canine teeth for piercing and tearing flesh. Animals that eat grass and leaves have flat grinding teeth which are sharp, but not pointed.

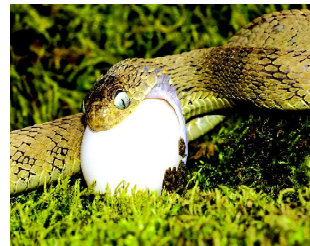


*Teeth of plant eater*



*Teeth of meat eater*

A snake does not chew its food at all. It swallows its food as a whole. It has small teeth. It can swallow even animal seems bigger than its mouth. Insects such as butterflies, honey bees and mosquitoes suck nectar and blood as their food. Instead of teeth they have a long hollow tube in their mouth. A chameleon has a long and sticky tongue. It shoots out its tongue to catch small insects. A frog also uses its tongue in the same way.



**Beak:**

Birds do not have teeth, instead they have beaks. Different birds have different kinds of beak. Birds use their beaks to peck, fight and hold their food while eating.

A flesh eating bird such as eagle or vulture has a strong sharp beak shaped like a hook. It helps to tear flesh.



A seed eating bird such as sparrow has a short, pointed strong beak used to crack seeds.



A parrot eats seeds, nuts and fruits. It has a strong curved beak which it uses to crack nuts and seeds.



A woodpecker has a long sharp beak which helps to tap the bark of trees and pull out insects.



**Feet and Claws:**

Birds have four toes on each of their feet. Toes are built to suit their food and other habits.

- ° Flesh eating birds such as eagles and vultures have strong, sharp claws called **Talons**. They use their talons to catch rats, toads and other small insects.

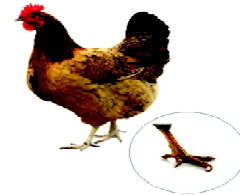


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- Swimming birds such as duck have webbed feet that help to swim.



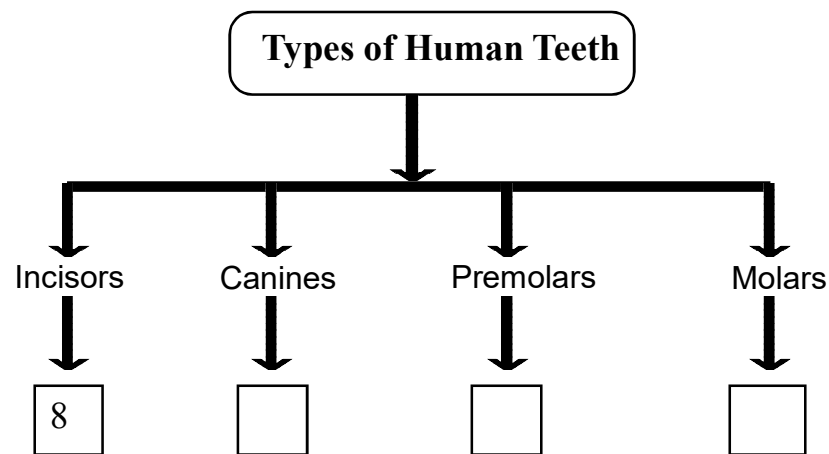
- Hens use their legs and claws for scratching the earth to bring out insects. All these birds have leg and claws shaped especially for their use.



- Birds like sparrow and crow perch on branches of trees. They have three toes in front and one at the back. The back toe helps the birds to hold on to the branch and thus prevent them from falling.



### Think and Learn:



### Activity

**Make a chart about different kinds of animal and their teeth.**