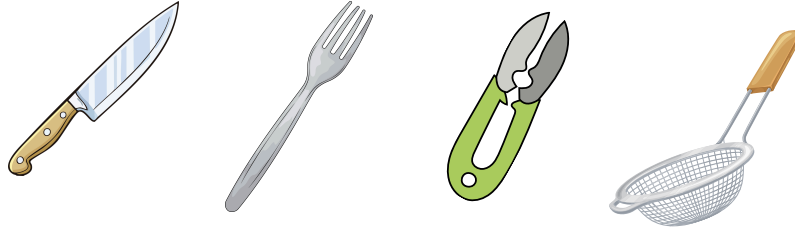


Tooth Toolkit - The Shark Detectives

LESSON 1

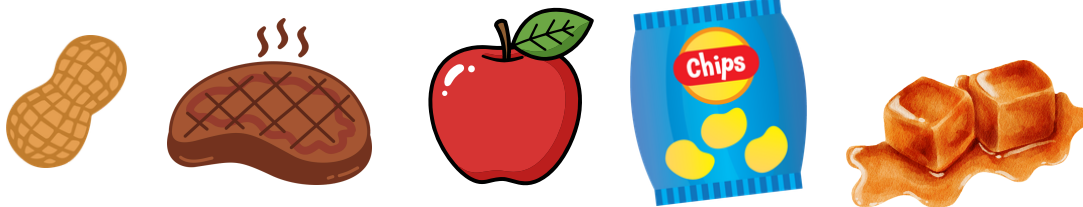
Investigation 1: Eat your words!

Your set of kitchen tools:



Knife, fork, nutcracker, tea strainer

Your food:



Verb Bank (words that describe how we eat) - Generate verbs that describe different ways of eating. Think about how different actions are suited to different food types. Eg. Chew, tear

Adjectives Bank (words that describe food) - Describe different food types and consider how their properties influence how they are eaten. Eg. Crunchy, tough

Tooth Toolkit - The Shark Detectives

LESSON 1

Pick three different foods from the table. Using your word banks, write a detailed explanation describing how each food is eaten. For each food, explain:

- what the food feels like (e.g. texture and properties)
- which action is needed to eat it (e.g. chew, tear, crush)
- which part of the mouth or tool would be used
- how the structure of the teeth or tool supports eating that food

Try to use a range of descriptive and scientific vocabulary.
Explain your reasoning clearly, linking the type of food to how it is eaten.

Food 1:

Food 2:

Food 3:

Investigation 2: Analysing teeth structure

When humans eat, different teeth perform different functions. Teeth are specialised for different types of food and eating actions.

Examples include: biting, cutting, tearing, crushing

In this investigation, students identify different types of teeth and analyse how their structure relates to their function.

Central Incisor

Canine

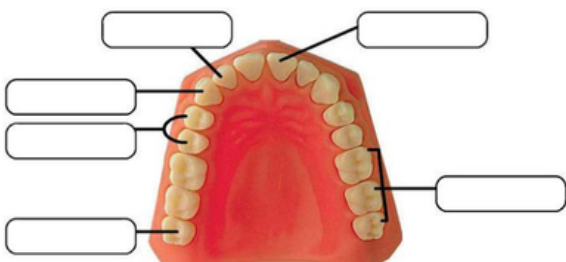
Premolars

Molars

Lateral Incisor

Wisdom Tooth

Correctly label the teeth & explain their functions



Incisor – “Cutting tool”

Flat-edged teeth at the front of the mouth used for slicing and cutting food

Canine – “Gripping Tooth”

Pointed teeth used for holding and tearing food

Premolar – “Crushing and Grinding Tooth”

Teeth used to break down food into smaller pieces

Molar - “Grinding Tool”

Broad, flat teeth used for crushing and grinding food

Tooth Toolkit - The Shark Detectives

Bonus Questions

Which animal is the canine tooth named after, and what does this suggest about its function?

How do human teeth change from childhood to adulthood, and why might this be important?

How are human teeth adapted to support an omnivorous diet?

Investigation 3: Analysing teeth structure

On your table, there are four kitchen tools. Below are different types of food that a shark might find in the ocean. For each food:

- draw the tool that would be most effective to help eat or capture the food
- explain your choice by describing how the shape and structure of the tool makes it suitable
- In the final column, write where in the sea you might expect to find this food (e.g. open sea, seabed, near the coast, surface).

Tool drawing

Describe suitability

Where the food is found

	Tool drawing	Describe suitability	Where the food is found
Anchovy (little, slippery fish)			
Tuna (big fish)			
Plankton			
Crab			
Mussel			
Seal			

Tooth Toolkit - The Shark Detectives

Investigation 3: Analysing teeth structure

Now match each kitchen tool to one of the four sharks below. Write the shark name and explain how its teeth work like that tool.

	Shark	Reasoning	How teeth are similar to this tool
Knife (cuts/slices)			
Fork (grips/holds)			
Nutcracker (crushes)			
Tea strainer (filters)			

Extension: Reflection

Choose one shark. In 3–4 sentences, explain how its tooth structure supports its survival in its habitat. Use at least two scientific terms from your word bank.
