

Quest to Digest

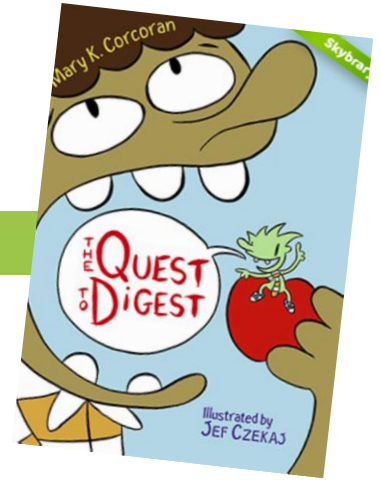
READ ALOUD GUIDE

Themes: STEM, Health and Wellness

Book Brief: A humorous and educational journey through the human digestive system!

Author:
Mary K. Corcoran

Illustrator:
Jef Czekaj



BEFORE READING

The Cover: Ask students to make a prediction about the story based on the cover and title.

The Pictures: Take a brief picture walk and ask students what they notice about the illustrations.

Prior Knowledge: Ask, “What do you know about what happens to food after you swallow it?”

Vocabulary: Frontload Tier 2 words using the accompanying [Vocabulary Guide](#).

Purpose for Reading: “As we read, pay attention to why each part of our digestive system is important.”

DURING READING

Check for understanding & make connections:

- After each section, pause and ask students what that organ does and why it is important.
- How is our body like a machine?
- What do you think would happen if one part of the digestive system didn't work?

AFTER READING

Our Purpose: What are some parts of our digestive system? How is each part important?

Extending Our Thinking:

- **Writing Extension:** Write a story from the perspective of a piece of food going on its own “quest to digest.”
- **Interactive Extension:** Simulate digestion with a food-in-a-bag activity (e.g., crackers + water + plastic bag to mimic chewing and stomach churning).

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books with similar themes, structure, characters, or content.