

Digestive System Workshop

Brief introduction and objective

This workshop has been designed for school kids, ranging from Sixth to Eight Standard students, to give them the introduction to a very vital system working inside their body. The aim is to bring to light the magnificence in the design and working of human body and to nucleate the seed of inquisitiveness regarding these issues in young minds. The workshop also supplements to the texts covered in the school.



Conducting Agency and Facilitators

A group of enthusiasts consisting of faculty members of IITK, school teachers, Media Lab Asia employees, IITK students and volunteers.

Participants

A total of 25-30 students participate in the workshop, the students generally belong to one village but a few times some kids from neighboring villages have also come to participate in the workshop.

Venue

Workshops have been conducted at various places, total eight in number, covering various villages around IITK campus, including Swami Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Lodhar, run by Jagriti Bal Vikas Samiti. The workshop starts at 10:00 am and gets over at 4:00pm the same day.

The Workshop

The workshop can be broadly broken up into three stages, the first stage in which the students are basically gathering the information consists of a collage making activity, an Animation movie and a computer based game. There is a lunch break after this stage. Second stage, the most vital one is the one in which the kids use the knowledge gathered in the stage one of the workshop to build a working model of digestive system using throw away articles. The final stage comprises of a round of discussion in which the kids

interact with the facilitators to get their doubts and difficulties sorted. The participants also give their feedback and suggestions on making the workshop more effective.

Paper Cutting

A lively activity, filled with colours and shapes. The kids are given two sheets of paper each, one sheet has the outline drawing of the various organs of the digestive system and the other one has the outline drawing of the human body. Students cut out the shapes from the first sheet and paste it at appropriate position in the second sheet to make the complete digestive system, the collage is finally coloured by the students.



Animation

An animation movie on digestive system is shown to the kids, the kids watch the animation with great interest and also the humorous moments included in the animation. In these ten minutes the participants are able to see the working of all the organs in digestive system in both 2-D and 3-D.



Game

This is an interactive computer based activity in which the kids help “Laddu Lal” by assembling the parts of his stolen digestive system. This drag and drop activity using mouse is very popular event among the students. They never get tired of redoing it many times.

Model Making

Model making is the part of the workshop where the students make a working model of the digestive system with their hands. They are divided in groups of five and given some throw away materials like empty bottles and some pipes. Using the articles provided to them and some guidance from the facilitators, they are able to come up with beautiful models of digestive system.



Discussion and Quiz

Towards the end we have a discussion session in which all the doubts of the children are clarified, students give feedback on the contents and the procedure followed in conducting the workshop.

