

Def
 The stomach is a sac-like structure that acts as reservoir of food and helps in digestion of carbohydrates, proteins & fats.

Location

- stomach lies in left part of abdomen, occupying the epigastric, umbilical and left hypochondric region.

Shape

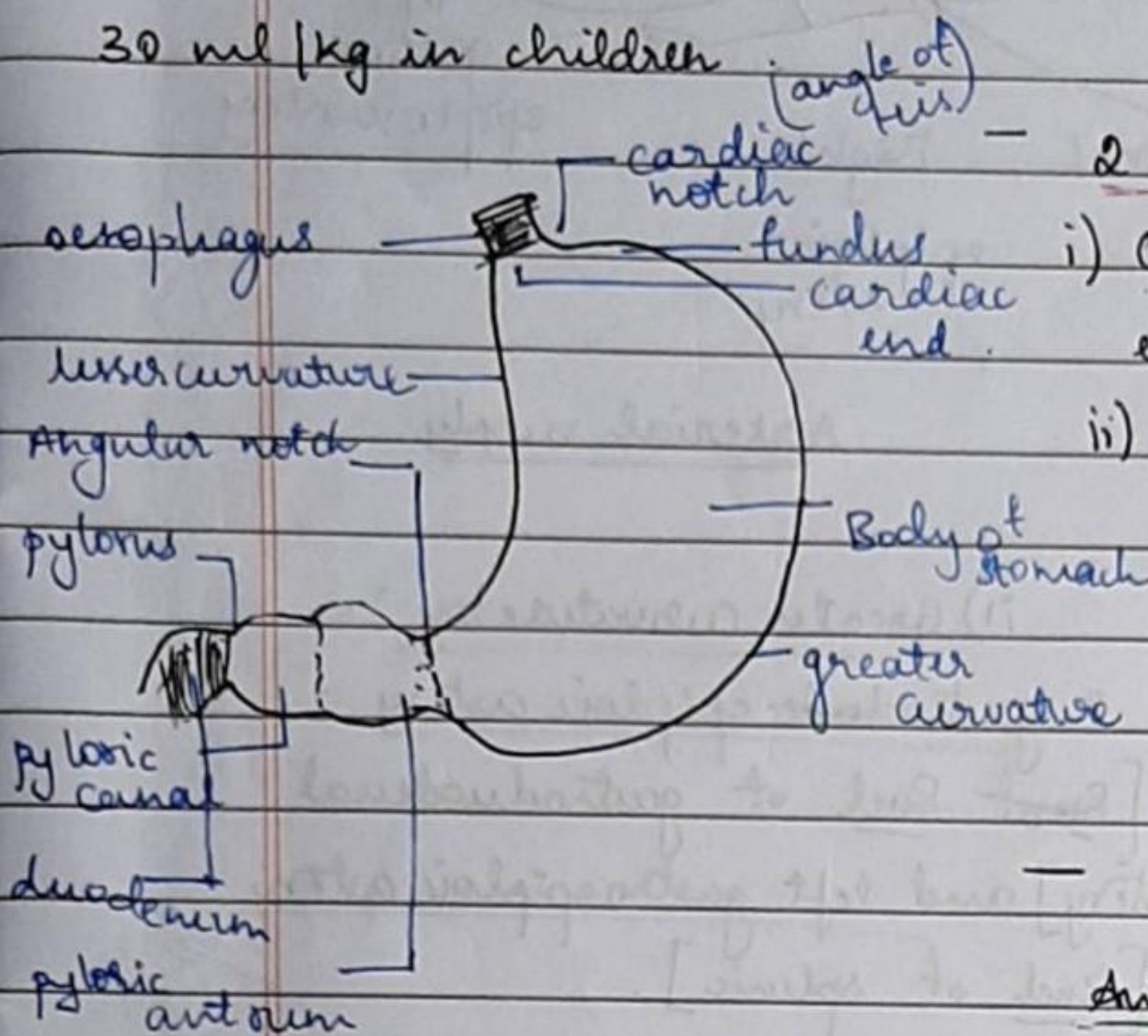
- when stomach is empty it is J-shaped when partially distended pyriform shaped.
- In obese person it is more horizontal.

Size and capacity

- 25cm long
- capacity 1 L in adults and 30 ml/kg in children

External features

- The stomach has 2 orifices (openings), 2 curvatures (borders) and 2 surfaces.



2 orifices

- i) Cardiac orifice → joined by lower end of oesophagus.
- ii) pyloric orifice → opens into duodenum.

- The sphincters are cardiac and pyloric sphincters respectively.

2 surfaces

Anterior or anterior superior surface face forwards and upwards.

Posterior or posterior inferior surface faces backwards and downwards.

2 curvatures

lesser curvature → concave and forms the right border of stomach.

It is marked by angular notch.

Greater curvature → convex and forms left border of stomach.

- presents cardiac notch.

and it is longer than lesser curvature.

2 parts

i) cardiac → it is large and is further divided into

fundus → is upper convex dome shaped part situated at the level of cardiac end.

Body → lies b/w fundus and pyloric antrum.

The gastric glands are in fundus and body of stomach. It contains 3 types of secretory cells → a) mucous cells, b) chief, peptic or zymogenic cells which secrete the digestive enzymes, & the parietal or oxyntic cells which secrete HCl.