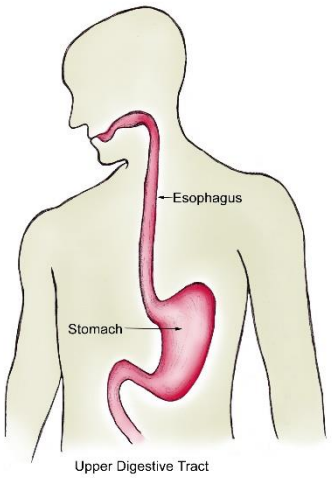
information to the brain. The tongue also helps to push food toward the posterior part of the mouth for swallowing.

- *Salivary Glands*. Surrounding the mouth are 3 sets of salivary glands. The salivary glands are accessory organs that produce a watery secretion known as saliva. Saliva helps to moisten food and begins the digestion of carbohydrates. The body also uses saliva to lubricate food as it passes through the mouth, pharynx, and esophagus.

Esophagus

The esophagus is a muscular tube connecting the pharynx to the stomach that is part of the upper gastrointestinal tract. It carries swallowed masses of chewed food along its length. At the inferior end of the esophagus is a muscular ring called the lower esophageal sphincter or cardiac sphincter. The function of this sphincter is to close of the end of the esophagus and trap food in the stomach.

Intestines and Beyond



Upper Digestive Tract

After the parsley digested food known as crime exits the stomach, It enters into the small intestine. the small intestine is highly convoluted. There's all these folds and it's really long and folded. So this really really serves to increase the surface area, so it helps by having a larger surface area. There is much more possibility for absorption. the small intestine starts at the pylorus of the stomach, and it ends up there cecum.. The large intestine lies around the edges of the abdominal cavity. So you can see it sort of relation to the skin. There. the function of the large intestine is to absorb water. So the colon is separated into four parts. You 've got the ascending colon, which is this first part on the right which ascends and then the transverse colon, which descends down into the last part..

Accessory Organs

The three accessory organs we 've got in the abdomen are the liver, the gallbladder and the pancreas. the liver receives nutrient rich blood from the gut via a vein called the portal vein. The hepatic portal vein. it processes the products of digestion and also