

Digestion Large Intestine

Large Intestine

- Contains friendly bacteria
 - No digestion happens
 - Absorption of water takes place
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Absorption + Production of Vitamins

- The bacteria live on undigested food material
 - They produce:
 - Vitamin K (Blood Clotting)
 - B Vitamins
 - If prolonged doses of antibiotics are given they can destroy intestinal bacteria
 - This can result in a vitamin K deficiency
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Elimination

- Removal of undigested + indigestible material = feces
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Gross Anatomy

- 1.5 meters (5ft) long ~ 7.5cm (3in) wide
 - Larger diameter + thinner walls than small intestine
 - The boundary between sm + lg intestines is guarded by ileocecal valve
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Landmarks

- Chyme enters cecum (an expanded chamber)
- The vermiform appendix - Slender attachment to cecum
 - If inflamed = appendicitis