For Creative Minds

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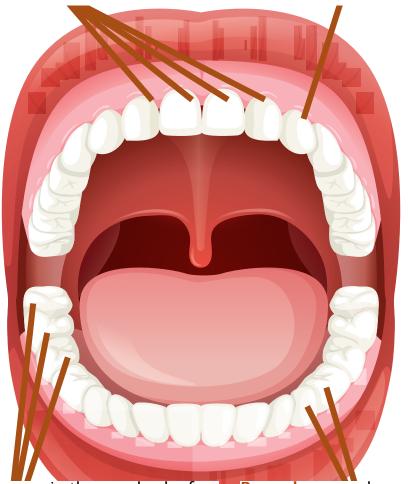
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All About Your Teeth

Can you find the different types of teeth in your mouth?

Incisors are your front two teeth and the teeth on either side on the top and bottom. They are sharp to bite or cut food.

Canines are right next to incisors and are strong and sharp to bite food.



Molars are in the very back of your mouth. They are flat and wide to grind up your food.

Premolars are also called bicuspids and are next to your molars but they are not as big. They help you tear food and grind it up.

The Right Type of Teeth

Animals need food to survive, so it's a good thing that different types of animals have teeth that are perfect for the kinds of foods they need to eat. See if you can guess which type of animals they are by their teeth.

Herbivores only eat plants. They don't have to worry about their food running away. Many have very sharp front teeth to help cut the leaves, twigs, grasses and stems they want to eat. Herbivores have broad, flat back teeth(molars) to grind up the food they've put in their mouths.

Carnivores only eat meat and flesh of living things. They have long super sharp front teeth to help them bite into and hold on to their catch. Their back teeth (molars) are also sharp and to slice their food. Carnivores often swallow their food in big chunks.

Omnivores eat both plants and meat. They don't usually eat leaves and grass, but they often like fruits and vegetables. They have both front teeth that are sharp and narrower at the tip to help them take bites, and they also have back teeth (molars) that are good for grinding up or crushing the food in their mouths.



Answers: Herbivore: horse, elephant; Carnivore: shark, tiger; Omnivore: human, raccoon