

AN ORGAN ISN'T JUST A PIANO

Teacher Notes

The human body may be the most complex and versatile object in the world. Dozens of systems coordinate to perform the myriad operations that we require of it at all times. This module addresses the organs that power the body.

Students will gain knowledge about the organs of the body through the use of diagrams and a hands-on activity that will help them develop an awareness of organ structure and function. In addition, they will acquire the vocabulary associated with the organs of the body.

Supplies (for a class of thirty students)

1. Human Body apron that shows the major organs of the body
2. Human Body poster that includes the organs of the body
3. Butcher paper
4. 6 drawings of the organs to scale (life size) **or**
5. 15 Human Body cutouts (should be 11x17 or larger so that teams can work on it)
6. 15 drawings of the organs to scale (reduced size for 11x17 cutout)
7. 30 scissors
8. 2 boxes of markers
9. 15 boxes of Crayons
10. 15 bottles of glue

Activity: The Major Organs of the Human Body

In this exercise, we will see what the body structure looks like and where the different organs are located within the body structure.

This activity will allow the girls to be able to identify the major organs of the body and to properly label these organs.

Divide the girls into groups of five. Each group then pick one girl to be the model for the body. Have her lie on the butcher paper and have one other girl trace around her body. If your group as a whole is large, you may want to have these cut out before class. If time is an issue, have the girls work in teams of two with the smaller pre-cut human body cutouts (11x17) Have each team of girls color and cutout the major organs of the body, which may be life size or to scale, depending on the activity. Have the girls glue the organs in their proper place on the human body by looking at the human body poster at the front of the room and the human body apron, which will be worn by one of the instructors. If you want, you may ask if there are any volunteers among the girls who would like to walk around the room wearing the apron. This will give the girls a 3-dimensional idea of where the organs are located within their own bodies.

Next, have the girls tell you the function of each of the organs using their best guess. You will be surprised. They may know quite a few. For your reference, the definitions of the major organs in the body are:

Brain- the part of the body that thinks and reasons

Heart- the circulatory organ of the body

Lungs- either of two spongy, saclike respiratory organs in most vertebrates, occupying the chest cavity together with the heart and functioning to remove carbon dioxide from the blood and provide it with oxygen.

Esophagus- the muscular membranous tube for the passage of food from the pharynx to the stomach

Liver- a large, reddish-brown, glandular vertebrate organ located in the upper right portion of the abdominal cavity that secretes bile and is active in the formation of certain blood proteins and in the metabolism of carbohydrates, fats, and proteins.

Stomach- the enlarged, saclike portion of the alimentary canal, one of the principal organs of digestion, located in vertebrates between the esophagus and the small intestine.

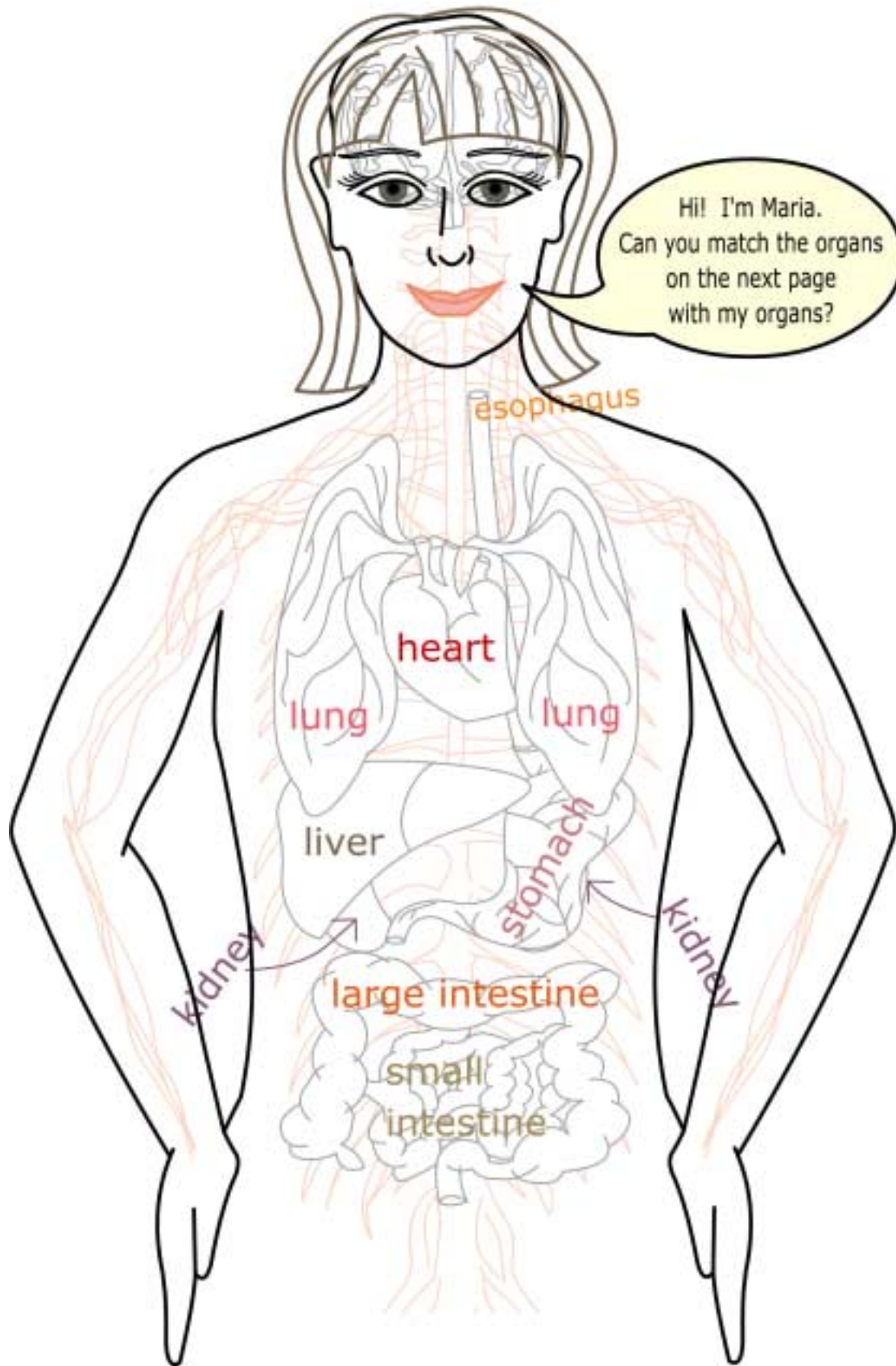
Large Intestine- the portion of the intestine that extends from the ileum to the anus, forming an arch around the convolutions of the small intestine

Small Intestine- the narrow, winding, upper part of the intestine where digestion is completed and nutrients are absorbed by the blood.

Kidneys- a pair of organs in the dorsal region of the vertebrate abdominal cavity, functioning to maintain proper water and electrolyte balance, regulate acid-base concentration, and filter the blood of metabolic wastes, which are then excreted as urine.

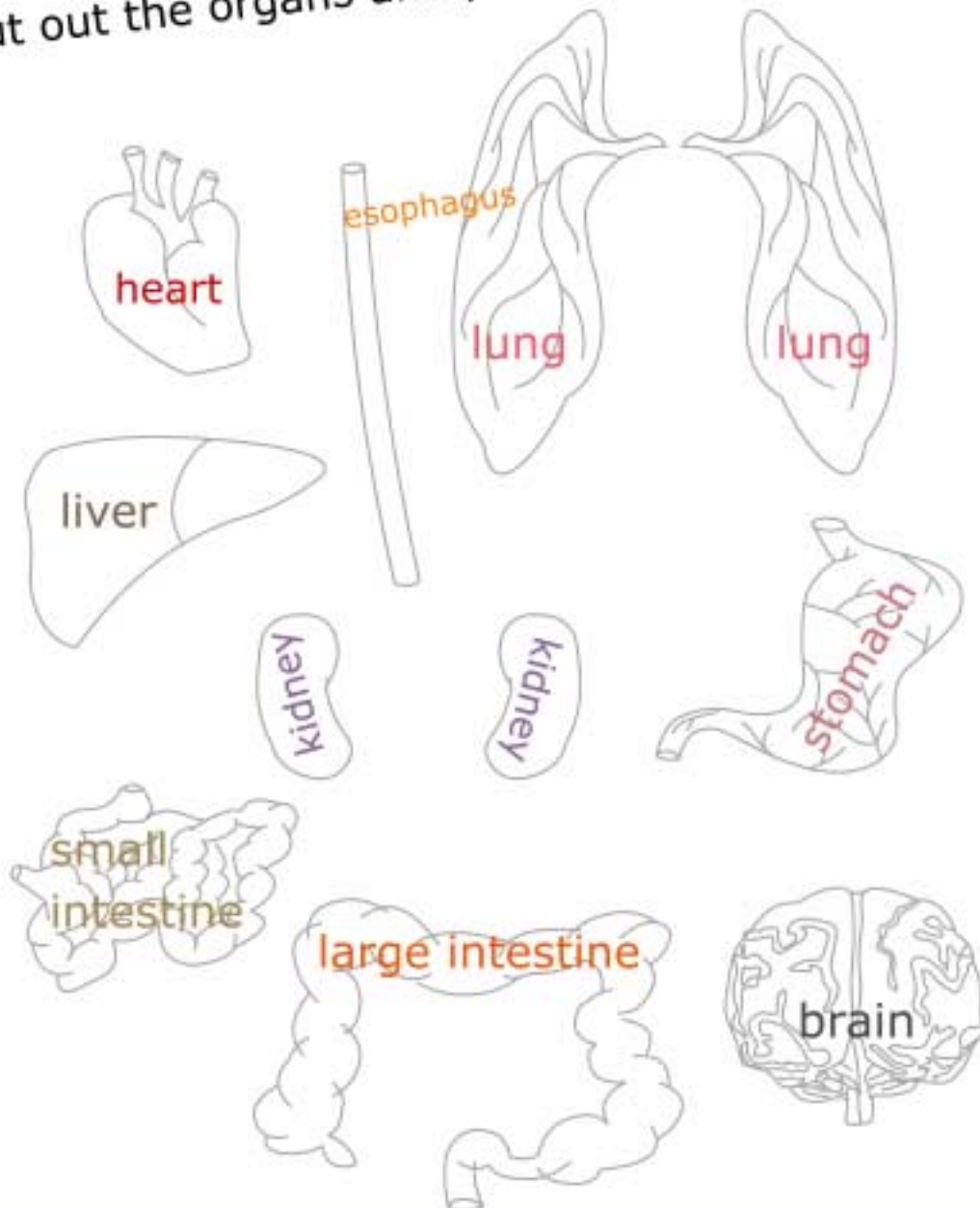
The Human Body Puzzle

Name _____



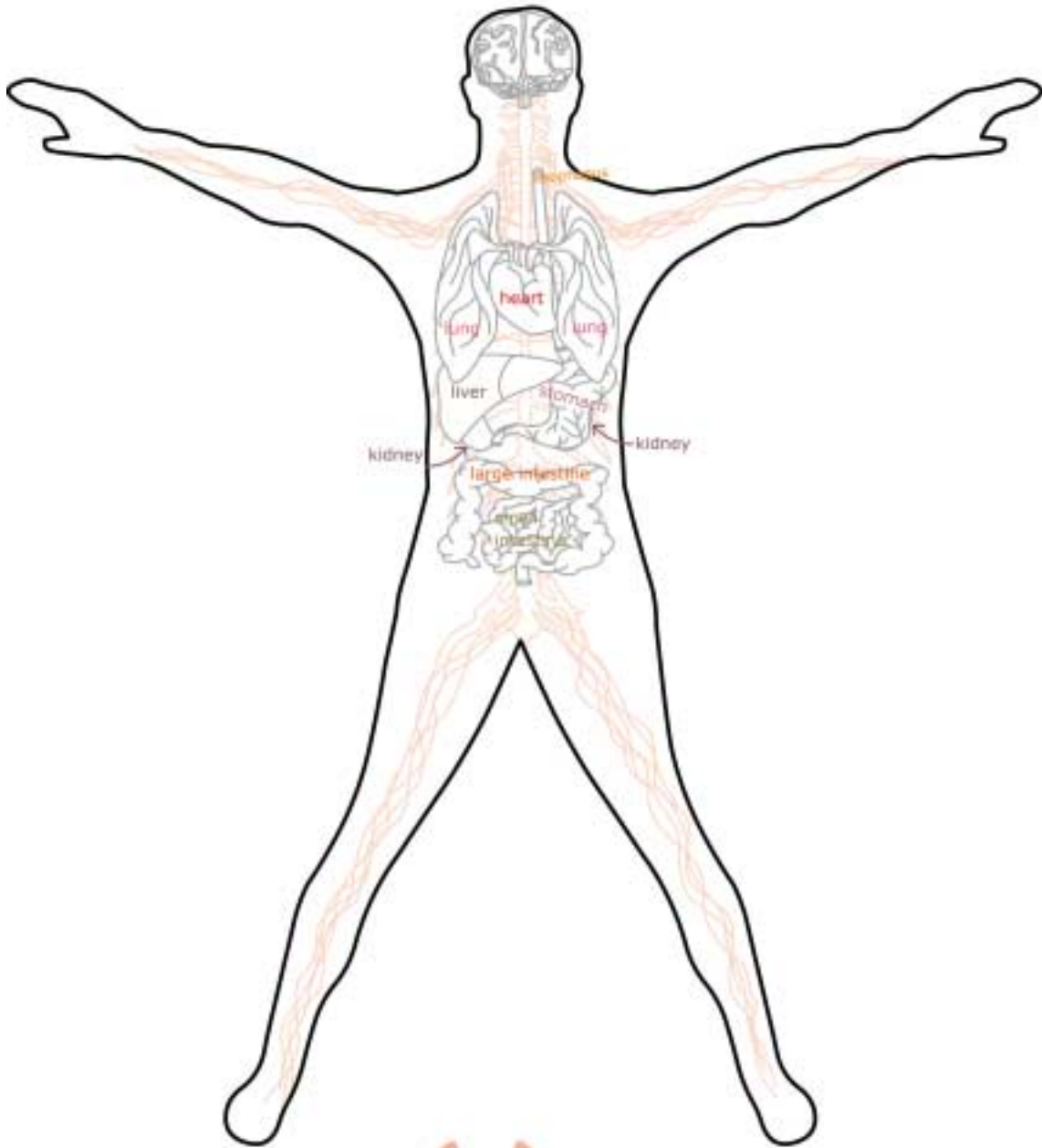
The Organs Inside the Human Body

Cut out the organs and paste them on Maria!



Remember: Always be careful with scissors!

The Human Body



Questions to ask:

How many major organs are there in the human body? How many did you know before class? Why do you think organs are important in our body?

Related Reading

What Happens to a Hamburger?, Let's Read and Find Out Science, Stage 2