

# 1 What teeth have you got?

- Humans and animals have various types of teeth.
- The different types of teeth do different jobs.

Have you noticed that you bite an apple with your front teeth, but then you chew it with your back teeth? You have different teeth for different jobs. Let's see if they look different from each other.

## What kinds of teeth do you have?

You can look at your own teeth in a mirror and feel them with your tongue.



The **incisors** are the front four teeth on the top, and also on the bottom. They are flat and sharp like chisels.

Next come the **canines**. They are the "fangs" in animals that bite! They are long and pointed.

The **molars** are the back teeth, sometimes called the cheek teeth. They are flat and wide.

## What are the different teeth for?



Your sharp front teeth work like scissors to cut off pieces of food.



You can use your pointy canines to tear off tough pieces of meat.



Your flat molars grind up the food so you can swallow it.

### Grind

To mash something up.

### Swallow

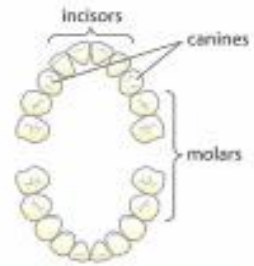
To send something down from your mouth to the stomach.



### On track

This is a drawing of the teeth normally found in Year 3 children. There are 20 of them. They are called the first teeth, or **milk teeth**.

- Count your own teeth. You can look in your mouth with a mirror, and also feel them with your tongue.
  - See if you can fill in this chart with the numbers of teeth you have.



My teeth	Top row	Bottom row
Incisors		
Canines		
Molars		
<b>Total</b>		

- How many teeth have you got altogether?
- How many of your new teeth have come through so far?

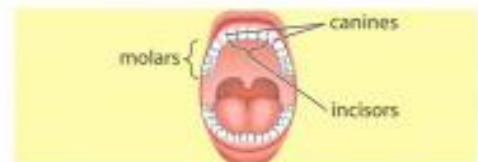


### Aiming higher

- Lucy looked at the teeth in her mouth.
  - These are the main jobs of your teeth. Match up each type of tooth to its job.

- A – grinding food up by chewing
- B – biting off pieces of things like apples.
- C – gripping and tearing tough food

- Explain how the shape of an incisor tooth helps it to do its job.



Name of tooth	Main job of tooth – A, B or C
incisor	
canine	
molar	



### How well am I doing?

#### On track

I can describe the different kind of teeth we have.

#### Aiming higher

I can explain how the shapes of the different teeth help them do their special jobs.