**7.6b – Physical and Chemical Changes in the Digestive System Vocabulary**

**Physical Change** - When a substance does not change its identity including changing phase, dissolving in a liquid, or breaking into smaller pieces.

**Chemical Change** - When a new substance is created with different properties; observable as a color change, the production of gas or a precipitate, or the release of heat or light.

**Matter** - Anything that has volume and mass.

**Digestive System** - The group of organs that work together to break food down into nutrients that the body can use.

**Stomach** - The organ in the digestive system that churns food and mixes it with digestive juices.

**Small Intestine** - The organ in the digestive system that finishes breaking down food with digestive juices and absorbs the nutrients.

**Saliva** - A clear liquid that moistens the mouth and starts the digestion of food.

**Sugars** - Essential structural component of living cells and source of energy in many organisms.

**Digestive Juices** - Chemicals secreted into the mouth, stomach, and intestines and responsible for aiding in the breaking down of carbohydrates, proteins, and fats.

**Organ** - A large mass of similar tissue that make up a part of an organism that performs a specific function.

**Peristalsis** - is a rhythmic muscle contraction that squeezes food down.