

A quick synopsis of the digestive system:

- o Mouth: In this case, beak.
- o Esophagus (Gullet): Transports food from the mouth to the stomach.
- Crop: A pouch in the esophagus used to store food temporarily before moving it on to the stomach.
- o Stomach (Proventriculus/Gizzard): The main place where food is broken down. There are two parts: the proventriculus for storage and the gizzard, which uses grit for grinding food into smaller pieces.
- Small Intestine: Aids in digestion and nutrient absorption. Composed of the duodenum, jejunum and ileum.
- o Liver: The largest organ in the body. Metabolizes carbohydrates, fats and proteins.
- o Caeca: Bacteria help break down undigested food passing through the intestine. The caeca turn into the large intestine, which connects with the cloaca.
- o Large Intestine: Functions primarily to absorb water, dry out indigestible foods and eliminate waste products.
- o Cloaca: Where the digestive, urinary and reproductive systems meet.
- Urinary System: Consists of two kidneys that filter waste from blood, which pass through two
 ureters to outside the body via the cloaca/vent.
- Vent: The end of the line: the external opening of the cloaca that passes waste (and eggs) outside the body.