

What Are Organs and Body Systems?

Science Words

Say each word quietly to yourself. Then read the meaning.

Read the tip to help you remember.

organism [AWR•guh•niz•uhm] a living thing made up of parts that work together to meet its needs

Organism and *organize* sound very much alike. The parts of an *organism* are organized to help it stay alive.

organ [AWR•guh] a body part that is made up of smaller parts that work together to do a certain job

Organ has more than one meaning. An *organ* is a large musical instrument with many smaller parts that work together to make sound. An *organ* is also a body part with many smaller parts that work together.

organ system [AWR•guh SIS•tuhm] a group of organs that work together to do one type of job

A system is a group of things that act together as a whole.

An organ is a body part that does a certain job.

You can put these ideas together: An *organ system* is a group of organs that act together as a whole.

brain [BRAYN] the organ that processes information

Brain ends with the sound at the beginning of *nerve*. The *brain* is made up of millions of nerve cells.

Brain and *broadcast* begin with the same sounds. Your *brain* broadcasts instructions to all the parts of your body.

skin [SKIN] a protective layer that covers the body

When you think of *skin*, think of *skinny*. Skinny people are extremely thin. They have very little fat and muscle under their *skin*.

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Science Concepts

Read the Ideas more than once. Do your best to remember them.

1. The eye is an organ because it has small parts that work together to let you see.
2. The roots, stems, and leaves of a plant are plant organs.
3. Your brain is the information center of your body; it sends and receives information constantly.
4. Your spinal cord, a rope of nerves along your backbone, is the main pathway for information.
5. Your five senses send information to your brain about the world around you.
6. All organisms have body parts that let them sense the world.
7. Skin, nails, and hair form a protective covering for your body.
8. Skin keeps germs out and helps keeps your body cool; hair helps keep your head warm.
9. Fur, feathers, scales, and shells are protective coverings for animals.
10. Bark is a protective covering for trees; sharp spines and a waxy coating protect some plants.