Pre-Activity Worksheet: Understanding Digestion

General Description
In the activity you will do this week during your learning/discussion group, you will be examining factors that influence digestion, different digestion strategies, and some dietary trends in US populations. In order to be prepared for this activity, complete this worksheet.

Reading
Browse the “Animal Nutrition” chapter in your text. Pay particular attention to figures 41.1, 41.9, 41.13, 41.15 through 41.19, and 41.21, and tables 41.1 and 41.2. Read the section on the Mammalian Digestive System beginning on pg. 859.

Definitions
Write a definition of the following words. Use your text, textbook glossary, and your previous knowledge to create the best definition possible. Remember to connect your definitions to digestion.

1) metabolic rate (basal metabolic rate)

2) digestive system

3) intestines (long & short)

4) kidneys

5) carbohydrates (absorption of carbohydrates)

Questions
Answer the following questions. You will explore your answers to these questions in-depth during learning/discussion group.
1) Do you think there is a relationship between body mass and the productivity of a habitat? Why do you think so?

2) What factors can influence metabolic rate?

3) What is the relationship between cellular respiration and metabolic rate? Do these terms describe the same thing or different things?

4) Who eats more fruit and vegetables – 55 year olds or 80 year olds (both Americans)? What makes you think this?