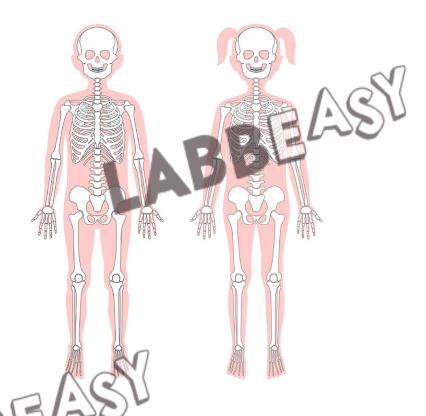


INTRODUCTION

The Human Skeleton

The skeleton is the framework of the body - it gives the body support, carries its weight, and protects the delicate internal organs. The skull protects the brain, the chest protects the heart, lungs, and liver, and the pelvis protects the reproductive organs.



A human being has 350 bones when they're born. Later on, some bones grow together so that an adult human has fewer: roughly 206 bones. Humans have seven cervical vertebrae - the same number as a giraffe.

Half of the bones are in the hands and feet, which make very fine movements possible.

Bones are rigid, but – because of the joints - very mobile. Where two bones meet, they form joints. Humans have roughly 100 joints.

Exercise is good for the bones - sport makes your bones harder and stronger. The body also needs vitamin D (which we get from direct sunlight) to build bones.

So, if you want a strong skeleton, get out in the sun and do lots of exercise!

Micha Labbé

