**Jack Glover – Junior winner**

**My Digestive Journey**

My name is Gary the Grape! I am going to be taking you with me through my journey of the digestive system.

It was a normal day, nothing out of the ordinary when a human picked me from my bunch. I knew it wasn't very grapeful.

The next minute I was put into its mouth and chewed.

Its salivary glands, which are located under the tongue, started to lubricate me. I was soaking. All the nutrients, fats, carbohydrates and proteins I may have had, were drained out of me and broken down ready to be absorbed through its intestinal wall, into its blood stream to transport around its body. I was so scared at this point. My seeds were all a quiver.

I felt a sudden rush as what was left of me slid down its throat in to its oesophagus.

"Go on have a drink, flush me down," as water propelled after me like a waterfall. I knew I should have taken swimming lessons.

At this point I realised I was going to be absorbed by cells into the small intestine. There was nothing I could do. My life was in its hands, I mean its digestive system. The cells were going to transport the molecules in its blood stream. My brain had gone to mush at this stage, as I held on for dear life.

"EEK!!" It's digestion time. I wasn't ready for this at all. I sat in its stomach for what seemed like an eternity. All I could think of was the Cherry Bakewell I had passed along the way. Don't humans know it is unhealthy. At least it had eaten some vegetables, as part of a carrot hit me on the way down. The water it drank earlier that very nearly drowned me, it has left it wet through in here. I should have worn my swim shorts.

Terrified, I was now waiting to pass through its small intestine.

"OOOH!" That's going to be a tight squeeze. I ran out of juice. Glands which are in its stomach along with acid broke me down into smaller particles.

"This is going to hurt," I thought, as I braced myself.

"What a journey! It is dark in here, anyone got a torch? Just how much can a grape take?"

I passed the liver, the main function of which is to process the nutrients from the small intestine.

That was an emotional ride. I thought I was going to be strangled by those dreaded intestines. "I'm getting a headache, is there any Anadin around here?" I asked.

I was nearly at the end of my journey now and felt quite exhausted. This end of the intestine gets rid of the waste which continues moving through your digestive tract into the colon.

"I have also heard on the grapevine that you humans do need regular exercise, as this helps me to move through your digestive system to help prevent constipation. "OUCH!! You don't want that!"

So, after the most terrifying journey of my life, the human just wanted to get rid of me. I feel totally crushed!