

- b. What is more conserved, gut diameter or gut length? What might be the functional reason for this? Can you think of examples to illustrate this?

Specialized Digestive Systems

Reading assignment Withers Ch. 18 pp. 924-938: supplement 18-1: Specialized Digestive systems.

Know:

- ☐ How herbivores digest cellulose.
- ☐ How digestive systems vary with respect to diet or functional needs.

Discuss:

1. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of foregut and hindgut fermentation. What kinds of animals do each, what are their differences in terms of food eaten (including rate of feeding), morphological differences, energy and nutrition recovered. Which nutrients are limiting, and how can they be obtained?

2. What is corporophagy, and how does it help ameliorate potential disadvantages?
