



SCIENCE · KEY STAGE 2 · YEAR3

## STUDENT HANDOUT

▪ 2026-06-14

# *All humans have a skeleton made up of many bones. — Science*

## Objective

By the end of the lesson, you can state that humans have a skeleton made of many bones and give at least two ways the skeleton supports the body, checked through your spoken and written answers.

## Hook

### WARM-UP

**Activate what you already know** Your body has different parts that do different jobs. Today you will use what you already know about body parts to learn about the skeleton.

### WHY THIS MATTERS TODAY

If your body had no skeleton, you would not be able to stand upright or keep your body shape. Today you will learn how the skeleton helps your body by supporting it and how many bones work together inside you.

- What helps you stand, sit, and move your body parts?
- What does the word support mean in everyday life?

## Representation

### NEW CONTENT

#### 1. WHAT A SKELETON IS

A skeleton is the framework inside your body. It is made of many bones.

All humans have a skeleton. Babies, children, and adults all have skeletons.

#### 2. WHAT THE SKELETON DOES

Your skeleton helps your body in important ways.

- It **supports** your body by giving it shape.
- It helps you **stand upright** instead of collapsing in a heap.
- It helps you **hold up** body parts such as your head, arms, and legs.

Today we are focusing on one big job: **support**.

#### 3. SMALL-STEP EXPLANATION WITH BODY EXAMPLES

The figure described shows these labeled parts: skull, rib cage, spine, pelvis, arm bones, and leg bones.

First, I think about the word **support**. Support means holding something up.

Next, I connect that meaning to the body:

- The **skull** supports and holds the shape of your head.
- The **spine** helps keep your body upright.
- The **leg bones** help support your body when you stand.
- The **pelvis** helps support your middle body.
- The **rib cage** is part of the strong frame in your chest.

So, when I explain how the skeleton supports the body, I do not just say “it helps.” I name body parts and tell what they hold up.

#### 4. WORKED EXAMPLE

**Question:** How does the skeleton support the human body?

**Model answer, step by step:**

1. First, I say the main idea: the skeleton is made of many bones.
2. Next, I say the job: it supports the body by giving it shape.
3. Then, I add examples from the body.
  - The skull supports the head.
  - The spine helps keep the body upright.
  - The leg bones support the body when standing.
4. Finally, I put it together in one clear answer.

**Full answer:** The skeleton is made of many bones. It supports the human body by giving it shape and helping it stay upright. For example, the skull supports the head, the spine helps keep the body upright, and the leg bones support the body when standing.

#### CHECK FOR UNDERSTANDING

Which sentence best explains support?

A. The skeleton changes color. B. The skeleton holds the body up and gives it shape. C. The skeleton is only in your arms.

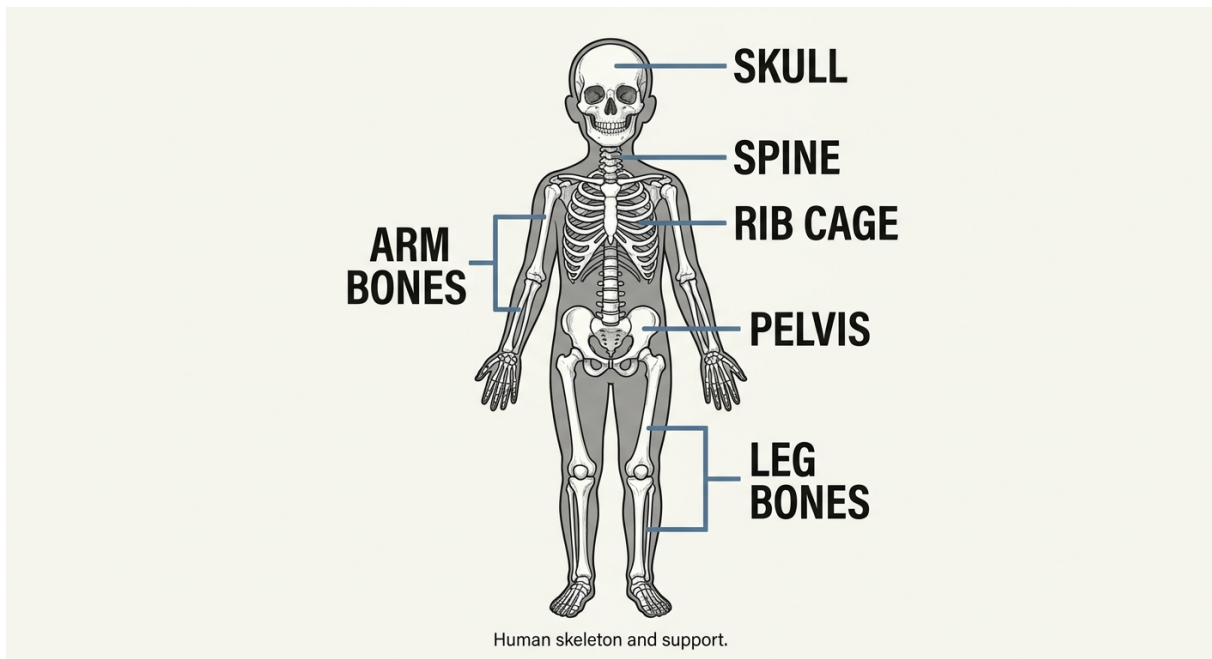
Say or write the letter and one reason for your choice before moving on.

#### 5. WHAT TO REMEMBER

When you answer, include:

1. humans have a skeleton,
2. the skeleton is made of many bones,

3. the skeleton supports the body by holding it up and giving it shape.



*Human skeleton and support*

| Term     | Definition                                                     |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| skeleton | the framework of bones inside the body                         |
| bone     | a hard part that makes up the skeleton                         |
| support  | to hold something up                                           |
| spine    | the line of bones in the back that helps keep the body upright |

## Guided practice

### GUIDED PRACTICE

1. **With the teacher:** Repeat this sentence frame aloud and complete it: “A skeleton is made of many \_\_\_\_\_. It supports the body by \_\_\_\_\_.”

2. **Together:** Use these body parts from the figure described: skull, spine, pelvis, leg bones. Match each part to a support idea.
  - skull → supports the head
  - spine → keeps the body upright
  - pelvis → supports the middle body
  - leg bones → support the body when standing
3. **Check for understanding:** On a mini-whiteboard or paper, write one sentence: “The skeleton supports the body by \_\_\_\_\_.” Show your answer before continuing.
4. **With a partner:** Complete this scaffold:
  - Humans have a skeleton made of many bones.
  - It supports the body by \_\_\_\_\_.
  - One example is the \_\_\_\_\_, which \_\_\_\_\_.
5. **Check for understanding:** Say your answer to your partner. Your partner listens for two things: the word “support” and one correct body part example.
6. **Now with less help:** Write a two-sentence explanation of how the skeleton supports the body, using at least two of these words: skull, spine, leg bones, shape, upright.
7. **Final check before independent work:** Underline the part of your answer that tells the job of the skeleton and circle the body-part examples.

*Grouping:* whole class to pairs to individual · *Time:* 14 min *Deliverable:* Completed matched examples and a two-sentence explanation showing the student’s steps and examples, not only a final short answer.

## Independent transfer

## INDEPENDENT PRACTICE

**Your task:** Work on your own. Write your answers in full sentences so your teacher can see your thinking.

1. Write one sentence to explain what a skeleton is.
2. Write two sentences to explain how the skeleton supports the body.
3. Use at least two body parts from this list in your answer: skull, spine, pelvis, leg bones.
4. **New challenge:** Imagine a person trying to stand with no skeleton. Write one sentence to explain what would be difficult and why.

**What you hand in:** A short written response with all four answers, including body-part examples and a clear explanation of support.

*New context:* Imagining what would happen if a person had no skeleton while trying to stand upright. · *Time:* 12 min

## Closure

### CLOSURE

Complete both parts:

1. Finish the sentence: "I learned that the skeleton supports the body by \_\_\_\_\_."
2. Finish the sentence: "One step I must not forget when I explain this is to \_\_\_\_\_."

Then say your answer to a partner in your own words.

*Time:* 5 min

## Formative assessment

**Exit question:** 1) In one or two sentences, explain how the skeleton supports the human body. 2) Name two body parts from the figure described and tell how each one helps support the body.

### Success criterion:

| Success criterion      | Beginning                                           | Developing                                                    | Secure                                                                         |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Core idea              | Says only that the skeleton is in the body.         | Says the skeleton is made of bones but gives no support idea. | Explains that the skeleton supports the body by giving shape or holding it up. |
| Body-part examples     | Names body parts but does not link them to support. | Names one correct body part and gives a simple support idea.  | Names two correct body parts and explains how each supports the body.          |
| Clarity of explanation | Answer is incomplete or mostly one-word responses.  | Answer is understandable but needs prompting or extra detail. | Answer is clear, complete, and easy to check quickly.                          |

## Differentiation

**Support:** If you need support, redo the first step from the worked example yourself: say the main idea, then add one body part at a time and check each sentence against the model before you move on.

If writing is hard, explain your answer orally to a partner or teacher, or fill in a short frame: “The skeleton supports the body by \_\_\_\_\_. The \_\_\_\_\_ helps by \_\_\_\_\_.”

**Extension:** If you finish early, add a third body-part example or explain why the skeleton helps the body stay upright as well as hold its shape.

**Language support:** Use the glossary words as you speak and write: skeleton, bone, support, spine. Say each step in order: first the main idea, then the job, then one example from the body.

### HOW THIS DOCUMENT WAS PERSONALISED

**Methodology (Direct Instruction)** → a structured explanation of the content, with examples and comprehension checks.

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#### CURRICULUM SOURCES:

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