

# SKELETAL SYSTEM

## PROTECTION

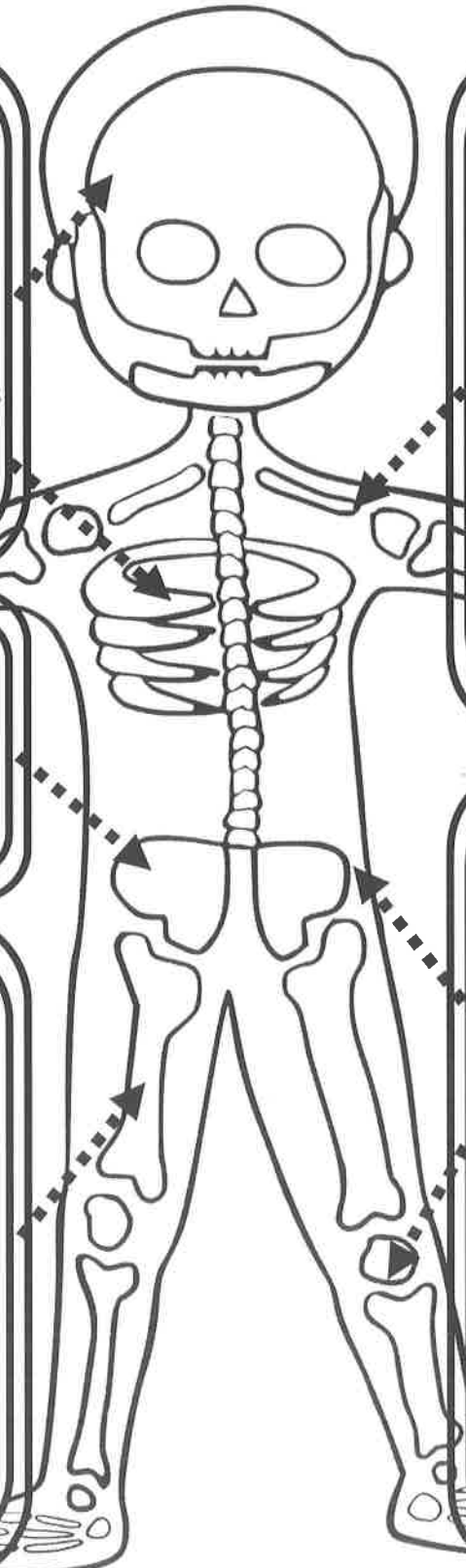
The skeletal system provides bony protection for soft, internal organs. The skull protects the brain; the thorax (sternum, ribs, and spine) protects the heart, lungs, and other organs.

## STORAGE

Bones store materials such as fat, calcium, and other minerals for later use.

## SUPPLY

Larger bones of the skeletal system contain bone marrow. Red marrow is responsible for production of red blood cells that are responsible for carrying oxygen to body tissues. white blood cells are also produced that are important for the body's immune system.



## SHAPE & SUPPORT

The skeletal system provides a framework and attachment points for muscles, tendons, ligaments, skin and organs. Bones such as the femur in the legs bear the weight of the upper body. The spinal column makes the body straight and supports the head.

## MOVEMENT

The skeletal system provides a framework for muscles to attach. When they contract they pull on the bones of the skeleton, which act like levers to create movement. Leg bones come together at the knee to form a hinge joint that enables the knee to move back and forth. The hip has a ball and socket joint that allows for movement in multiple directions.