



Topic: Animals incl. humans

Year 5

Strand: Biology

What I should know by the end of this unit:

- The changes as humans develop to old age

Human life cycle

There are 6 stages in the human life cycle:

- Embryo
- Foetus
- Baby
- Childhood
- Adolescence
- Young adult
- Middle aged adult
- Old age

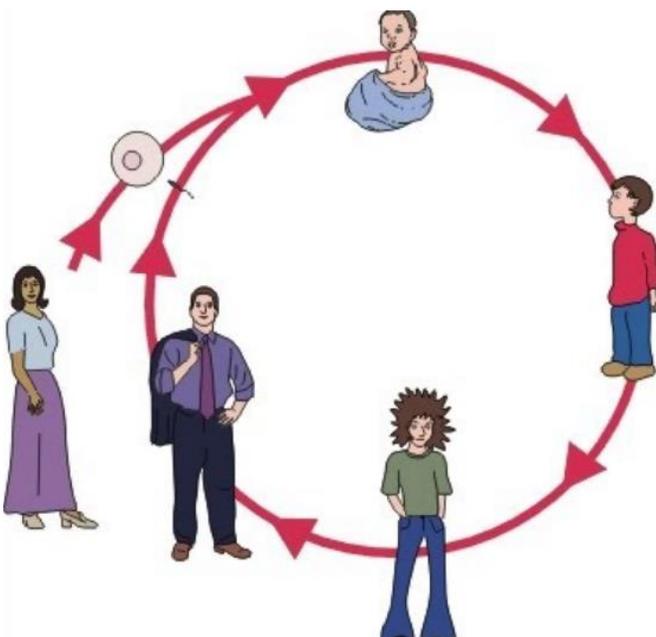
It takes a **foetus** (unborn baby) about 40 weeks to develop inside the womb. During that time the fertilised egg becomes an **embryo** and then a foetus.

When a baby is born, it is completely helpless, but grows steadily and becomes a more independent child. The child then experiences **puberty**, where they become an **adolescent** who is capable of reproducing. As adults get older and enter middle age, they become noticeably weaker. At the end of middle age, females are no longer able to reproduce. The last stage of a human's life is old age, when they are increasingly dependent on support from others.

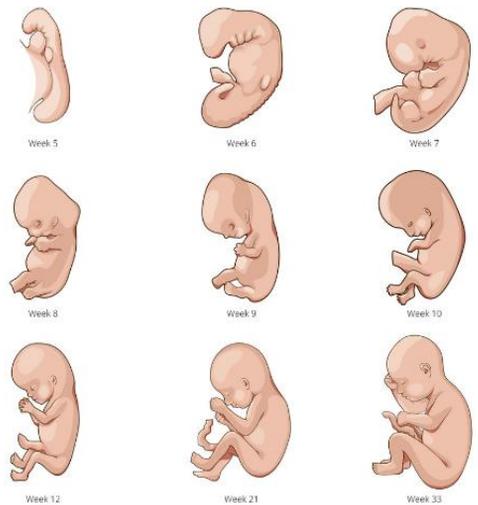
Key Vocabulary

Spelling	definition
adolescence	The time when a child develops into an adult
childhood	The age span ranging from birth to adolescence
embryo	A newly fertilised egg in the womb
foetus	An unborn baby that has developed from an embryo
hormones	Substances in our blood that influence our mood or behaviour
life span	The length of time something lives for
puberty	The time during which adolescents reach sexual maturity and become capable of reproduction
reproduction	The biological process by which new individual organisms – "offspring" – are produced from their "parents"

Human life cycle



Embryo development





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Childhood responsibility

When some animals are born, they can already swim or walk. Some are able to find their own food. Some of these animals become adults in a few weeks and are then able to reproduce and have offspring of their own.

However, when human babies are born they are completely helpless. They are totally dependent on the care of others in order to survive.

As time passes, babies start to develop into toddlers and become more powerful. They learn from others and from their environment and become more independent. The process continues until the child becomes an **adolescent** and then an adult.

Old age

Old people can live very fulfilling lives. They can look back on their achievements and enjoy the relationships with their children and grandchildren. However, as people grow old their bodies and minds start to deteriorate (become weaker). This can make it more difficult for them to perform tasks that they could perform easily when they were younger.

There are several ways that the difficulties of old age can be lessened. There are devices – such as hearing aids, walking frames and mobility scooters – which can help older people live more independently.

We can help older people by visiting them and preventing them from being lonely. We can also explain new technology to them and offer to perform some tasks for them such as going shopping.

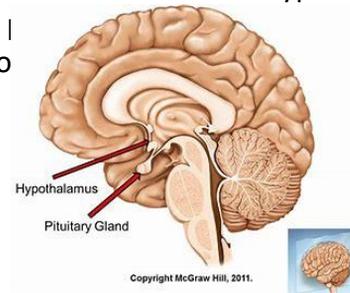
Puberty

Puberty is the stage of development between childhood and adulthood.

Changes happen inside and outside the body during puberty.

Physical growth occurs so that the body changes to that of an adult which enables reproduction.

Two parts of the brain – the hypothalamus and the pituitary gland – control the hormones that cause these changes. The hypothalamus is the part of the brain that controls the pituitary gland. The pituitary gland is a small pea-sized gland at the base of the brain. It is the master gland of the endocrine system. It controls the activity of other glands in the body. The hypothalamus and the pituitary gland are part of the brain's endocrine system. The hypothalamus is the part of the brain that controls the pituitary gland. The pituitary gland is a small pea-sized gland at the base of the brain. It is the master gland of the endocrine system. It controls the activity of other glands in the body.



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Place these in the order they happen using numbers 1-4	Start of unit	End of unit
adolescent		
newborn		
adulthood		
toddler		

Which life process happens when adults produce offspring?	Start of unit	End of unit
growth		
reproduction		
movement		
nutrition		

Name 3 things that happen during puberty.	Start of unit	End of unit

Name a time in a human's life when there is a rapid change. Give an example of something that happens in that time.	Start of unit	End of unit