



Key Knowledge

<p>What are the main stages of the human life cycle?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foetus - an unborn animal or human being in the very early stages of development • Newborn - this is a baby that has just been born. • Infancy - this is a period of rapid change. • Many toddlers learn to walk and talk at this stage. • Childhood - children learn new things as they grow. They become more independent. • Adolescence - this is when the body starts to change and prepare itself for adulthood. Hormonal changes take place over a few years. This is also known as puberty. • Early adulthood - this is when humans are usually at their fittest and strongest and are now able to reproduce. • Middle adulthood - changes such as hair loss may happen. There are also some hormonal changes again and the ability to reproduce decreases. • Elderly, or late adulthood - there is a decline in fitness and strength.
<p>What is puberty?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Puberty is the change that happens in late childhood and adolescence when the body starts to change because of hormones and becomes ready for adulthood. • Some changes include growth in height, more sweat, hair growth on arms and legs, under the armpits and on genitals, and growth in parts of the body such as male genitals and breasts. • Females begin to menstruate.

Investigate

Explore the similarities and differences between babies, children, adolescents and adults.
 Research the **gestation** periods of other animals and comparing them with humans.
 Consider why humans take so long to learn to walk in comparison to other animals.

Key Vocabulary

adolescence	The life stage in which you develop from being a child into being an adult.
adulthood	The state of being an adult.
development	The gradual growth or formation of something.
foetus	An animal or human in its later stages of development before it is born.
genitals	The external reproductive organs.
gestation	The process in which babies grow inside their mother's body before they are born.
hormones	A chemical, usually occurring naturally in your body, that makes an organ of your body do something.
independent	If someone is independent , they do not need help or money from anyone else.
infancy	The period of your life when you are a very young child.
life cycle	The series of changes that an animal or plant passes through from the beginning of its life until its death.
life processes	The 7 processes that tell us something is alive: movement, respiration, sensitivity, nutrition, excretion, reproduction and growth.
mature	When a child or young animal matures , it becomes an adult .
menopause	The time during which a woman gradually stops menstruating , usually around fifty years old.
menstruation	The approximately monthly discharge of blood by non-pregnant women from puberty to the menopause .
offspring	A person's children or an animal's young.
organ	Body tissue with a particular function.
puberty	The stage in the human lifecycle when the body starts to become physically mature .
reproduction	When an animal or plant produces one or more individuals similar to itself.
toddler	A young child who has only just learned to walk.

Diagram

