

Key Vocabulary /Facts

Reproduction	Reproduction is the process of producing offspring.
Adolescent	The stage between juvenile and adult
Life Cycles	A life cycle is a series of changes that happen to a living thing during its lifespan.
Foetus	A stage in the mammalian life cycle when a mammal in the uterus has begun to develop limbs and organs.
Gestation	The length of time the young of a mammal develops inside the female's body until birth.
Adult	A fully-developed person or animal that has grown to full size.
Birth	The process where a baby comes out of a female's body.
Cell	The smallest living unit that is the building block of all living things.
Embryo	The very early stages of development inside the uterus
Egg	A female sex cell that develops into an embryo if fertilised by a male sex cell.
Fertilisation	The joining of a female egg and a male sperm during sexual reproduction to form an embryo
Juvenile	A stage in the mammalian life cycle between embryo and adolescent
Puberty	The process where an adolescent's body develops and changes as they become an adult capable of reproducing
Sperm	Male sex cells that fertilise an egg in the female reproductive system.



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All strands of life entwined.

Y5/6Voyager Class: Spring Term: Human Reproduction and Ageing

Key Points

Life Cycles	A set of changes that happen in a set order as the animal or plant grows and develops. All living things eventually die, but reproduction starts the life cycle again.
Human Ageing	Humans reach the peak of their physical fitness during the first decade of adulthood. After this, the cells that make up the human body begin to decay. They lose the ability to function correctly, causing various ageing effects.
Human Gestation	Roughly a human gestation period is 39 weeks from embryo to foetus to birth.

Mammals

Mammals are a group of vertebrate animals, which means they have a backbone. Mammals have several characteristics that make them different from other vertebrates. These include:

- producing milk to feed their young
- being warm blooded
- giving birth to live young
- having fur or hair
- breathing air with lungs

Mammalian Life Cycle

There are 4 stages to the mammalian life cycle.

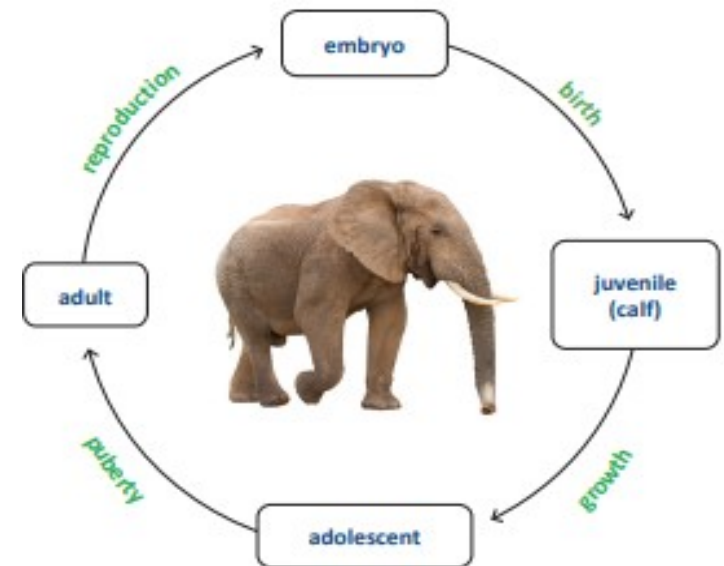
- Embryo
- Juvenile
- Adolescent
- Adult

The length of each stage varies for different animals. For example, the European hamster has a 2–3 week juvenile stage, but the same stage is 10 years for an African elephant.

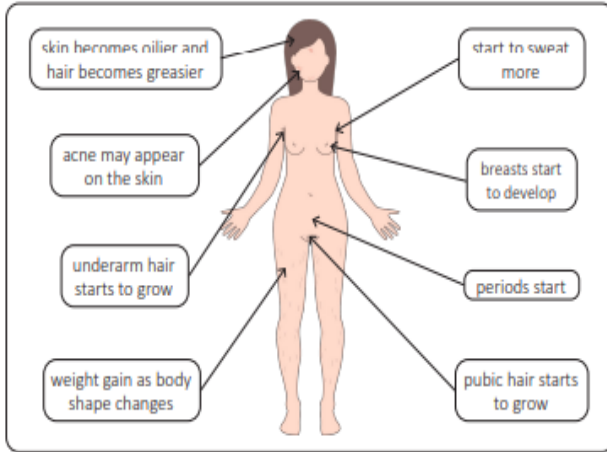
Humans are born around 40 weeks after gestation.

The juvenile stage in humans lasts until around 12 years old.

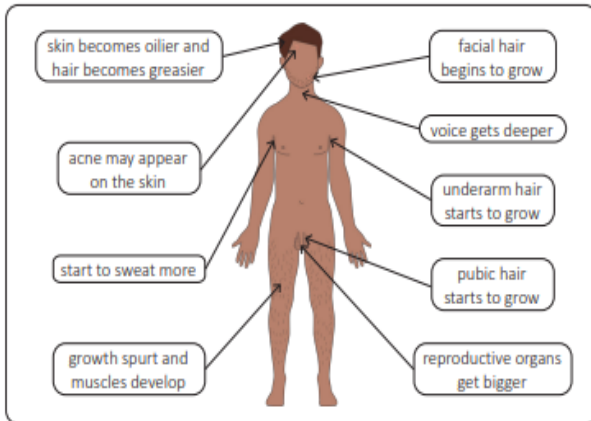
The adolescent stage finishes around 19 years old– you then become an adult.



Physical changes during puberty in females



Physical changes during puberty in males



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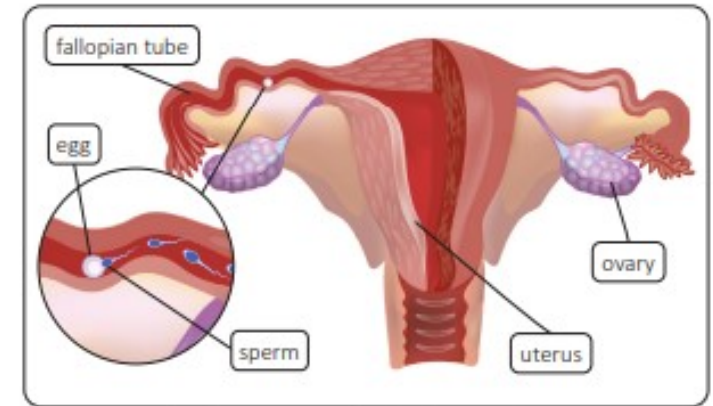
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Puberty

Puberty is when a child's body changes as they develop into an adult and become able to reproduce. Puberty can start at any time between the ages of 8 and 14 and takes around four years. Chemicals called hormones cause puberty to begin and create physical changes, such as developing acne, sweating more and growing underarm and pubic hair. Puberty also creates emotional changes, including mood swings,

Human Reproduction

Sexual reproduction is the process of reproduction that involves one female and one male. When humans reproduce, a male sperm fertilises a female egg that has been released from the ovary into the fallopian tube. The fertilised egg divides as it travels down the fallopian tube and becomes a ball of cells called a blastocyst. The blastocyst implants in the wall of the uterus and devel-



A sperm fertilises an egg in the female reproductive system.

Compare the life cycles of animals, including a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird.

Describe the changes as humans develop from birth to old age.

Explain why personal hygiene is important during puberty.

Describe the process of human reproduction.

Describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals.