

we
do

Use your knowledge organiser.

1. Highlight words that you know.
2. Explain the definitions.

Key Vocabulary

Embryo	an unborn human or animal in the earliest stages of growth when its basic structures are being formed.
Foetus	an animal not yet born or hatched but more developed than an embryo
Womb	A woman's womb is the part inside her body where a baby grows before it is born.
Gestation	Gestation is the period of development where some animals carry their babies inside their bodies before they give birth.
Baby	an extremely young child/animal.
Toddler	a child who is between 12 and 36 months old (1 to 3 years old)
Teenager	someone who is between 13 and 19 years old
Elderly	old or aging
Growth	an increase in size
Development	sequence of physical, language, thought and emotional changes that occur in a child from birth to the beginning of adulthood
Puberty	when your body begins to develop and change as you move from kid to adult



Do we stop growing?

Last week, we focussed on foetal development.

Discuss

How does a foetus grow and develop?



I
do

What is the difference between animals and humans gestation periods?



Read the text and take turns to read.

we
do

1. What does viviparous mean?
2. Who has the shortest gestation?
3. Who has the largest gestation?
4. What affects gestation of animals?
5. Which animal has a gestation of 17 months?
6. Which pinnipeds have the longest gestation?

we
do

1. What does viviparous mean? **give birth to live young**
2. Who has the shortest gestation? **Virginian opossum**
3. Who has the largest gestation? **African Elephant**
4. What affects gestation of animals? **Size of the animal, breeding seasons, living in the open**
5. Which animal has a gestation of 17 months? **Orcas**
6. Which pinnipeds have the longest gestation? **Walruses**



**I
do**

The length of gestation varies from species to species. The shortest known gestation is that of the **Virginian opossum, about 12 days**, and the longest that of the **Indian elephant, about 22 months**. In the course of evolution the duration of gestation has become adapted to the needs of the species. The gestation periods of other animal reveals that the length of the gestation period is largely a matter of the animal species size. Exceptions are the guinea pig and related South American **rodents**, in which gestation is prolonged (averaging **68 days for the guinea pig** and **111 days for the chinchilla**). Another factor is that, in many species with restricted **breeding** seasons, gestation is adjusted so that birth matches with the period when food is most **abundant**. Therefore the horse, a spring breeder with 11 months' gestation, has its young the following spring, as does the sheep, a **fall breeder** with a five months' gestation. Animals that live in the open tend to have longer gestations.

we
do

Virginia
opossum
12 days

Guinea pig
68 days

African
Elephant
22 months

Scan you scan your text and find an animal that has a gestation in between a guinea pig and an african elephant.

Virginia
opossum
12 days

Guinea pig
68 days

African
Elephant
22 months

Average of 30 days in 1 month

Virginia
opossum
12 days

Guinea pig
68 days

African
Elephant
22 months

Average of 30 days in 1 month

Virginia
opossum
12 days

Guinea pig
68 days

African
Elephant
22 months

you
do

Go through your text and note down the animals and gestation periods. Make a timeline and sort the animals.

10 mins

I
do

Gestation

What is gestation?

Why is gestation different among animals?

Did you know that....



An African elephant has a gestation of 22 months.



3 days
Jellyfish



12 days
Opposum



266 days
Human



Timeline of gestation periods

I
do

Did you know that...

The gestation period...

Humans...

Carrying their young for...

you
do

Gestation

What is gestation?

Why is gestation different among animals?

Did you know that....



An African elephant has a gestation of 22 months.



3 days
Jellyfish



12 days
Opposum



266 days
Human



Timeline of gestation periods

What is the difference between animals and humans gestation periods?

- How does a foetus grow?
- What is the differences between animals including humans gestation period?
- How do you grow in childhood?
- What happens to your body during puberty?
- What is it like to be an adult?