

In this unit: Pupils will consider the human life cycle and the changes which happen from birth to old age. They will focus particularly on the changes associated with puberty. Pupils will create a guide for a pregnant woman on how the foetus will change from conception to birth.

Children should already know:

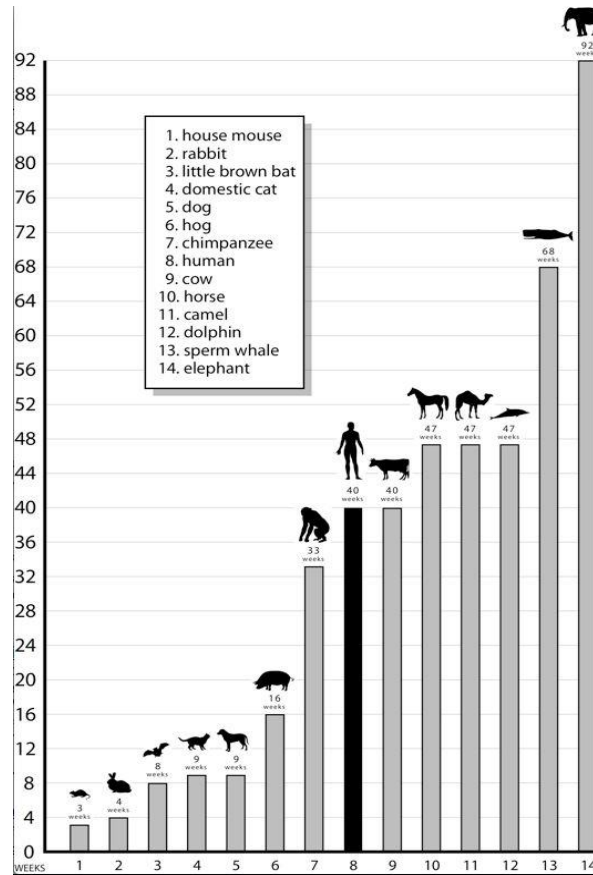
- that humans have offspring which grow into adults.
- that humans change over time.

At the end of this unit, children will know:

- that foetuses grow and change during pregnancy and describe the key stages of the gestation period.
- that our bodies change during puberty and can describe these changes.
- that humans incur physical and mental changes as they age and can describe these changes, giving reasons.

Pupils could investigate:

- the link between the size of feet/hands and height.
- gestation periods linked to the size of animal.



Gestation Periods

Species	Days
Asian Elephant	645
Cow	284
Human	266
Chimpanzee	227
Black Bear	210
Lion	108
Dog	63
Rabbit	33

Key Vocabulary

adolescence	the stage between childhood and adulthood.
adult	the stage of development when a human is fully grown and mature
ancestor	a person, typically further back than grandparent, from who you are descended from
child	the young human below the age of puberty
conception	the point at which the egg is fertilised
development	the gradual growth or formation of something
fertilisation	the process of male and female sex cells fusing together
foetus	an unborn offspring of a mammal
genitals	the reproductive organs of the body
gestation	the process or time when prenatal develop takes place before birth
growth	the process of increasing in size
infancy	the period of early childhood
life expectancy	the length of time, on average, that a particular animal is expected to live
menstruation	the monthly discharge of blood from non-pregnant women after puberty
pregnant	having a child or young develop in the foetus
prenatal	the stage of development from the stage of fertilisation to the time of birth
puberty	the physical stage of development between childhood and adulthood
reproduction	a process where two parents – one male and one female – are required to produce new life

Key Questions:

- why do animals need to have offspring?
- what are the stages of development in a human?
- is there a link between feet/hand size and height?
- does the size of an animal affect its gestation period?
- how do our bodies change during puberty? Why?



