



What should I already know?

- Animals can be grouped into **vertebrates** (and then further into fish, reptiles, amphibians, birds and **mammals**).
- A life cycle is the changes that a plant or animal goes through from birth to death.
- **Reproduction** and **growth** are two of the seven life processes.

Reproduction

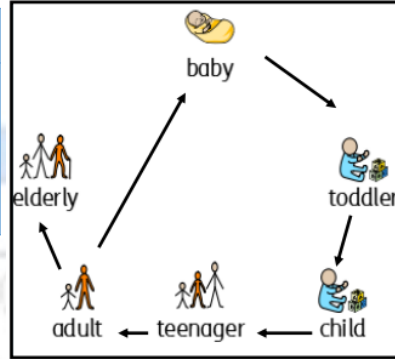
- New life starts because of reproduction.
- Sexual reproduction relies on two parents and male sex cells (sperm) fertilise female sex cells (eggs). This fusion means that the offspring resembles but is not identical to the parents. Examples include rose, seahorse, salmon and seal.
- Asexual reproduction only needs one parent to start new life. A cell starts to divide itself. All the cells are identical to the parent. Examples include bacteria, fungi, stick insect and aphid.

Gestation periods

- A gestation period is the amount of time a mammal spends in its mother's womb.
- Gestation periods are different for different mammals.

What is puberty?

- Puberty is the change that happens in late childhood and adolescence when the body starts to change because of hormones.
- Some changes include growth in height, more sweat, hair growth on arms and legs and on genitals, and growth in parts of the body such as male genitals and breasts.
- Females begin to menstruate.



Values

Challenge

Commit

Conquer

Celebrate

Technical vocabulary

adolescence	the period of your life 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 of human being in its later stages of development before it is born
genitals	the reproductive organs
gestation	the process in which babies grow inside their mother's body before they are born
growth	an increase in something
hormones	a chemical, usually occurring naturally in your body, that makes an organ of your body do something
infancy	the period of your life when you are a very young child
life processes	there are seven processes that tell us that living things are alive
mature	when a child or young adult matures, they become an adult
menstruation	the approximately monthly discharge of blood of non-pregnant women from puberty to menopause (when a woman gradually stops menstruating)
offspring	a person's children or an animal's young
puberty	the stage in someone's life when their 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

Main stages of the human life cycle

foetus	new born	Infancy	childhood	adolescence	Early adulthood	Middle adulthood	Late adulthood
an unborn animal or human being in the very early stages of development	this is a baby that has just been born	this is a period of rapid change. Many toddlers learn to walk and talk at this stage.	children learn new things as they grow. They become more independent.	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.	this is when humans are usually at their fittest and strongest.	changes such as hair loss may happen. There are also some hormonal changes again and the ability to reproduce decreases.	there is a decline in fitness and strength.