

Day 1: Sperm joins with ovum (egg) to form one cell. The new life has 46 human chromosomes and contains the complex genetic blueprint for every detail of human development—the child's sex, hair and eye color, height, skin tone, etc.

Day 3-9: The miniscule child travels down the fallopian tube into the uterus (womb), implants in its rich lining and begins to draw nourishment.

Day 21: The heart begins to beat. Foundations of the brain, spinal cord and nervous system are already established.

Day 28: The backbone and muscles are forming. Arms, legs, eyes and ears have begun to show.

Day 35: ▶ Five fingers can be discerned in the hand.

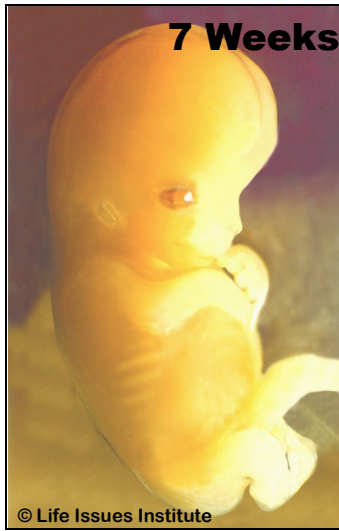
6 Weeks



Day 40: Brain waves can be detected and recorded.

◀ **Week 6:** The liver is now taking over the production of blood cells, and

the brain begins to control movement of muscles and organs. The mother is about to miss her second period and has probably confirmed that she is pregnant.



◀ **7 Weeks:** The embryo begins to move spontaneously. The jaw forms, including teeth buds in the gums.

Week 8:▶

A little more than an inch long. Now called a fetus—Latin for “young one” or “offspring.” Everything is now present that will be found in a fully developed adult. The stomach produces digestive juices and the kidneys have begun to function. The fetus' body responds to touch.



Week 9:

Fingerprints are evident in the skin. The fetus will curve his fingers around an object placed in the palm of his hand.

Week 12:

The fetus can squint, swallow and wrinkle his forehead. He urinates, sleeps, and exercises his muscles energetically—turning his head, curling his toes, and opening and closing his mouth. His palm, when stroked, will make a tight fist. Vocal chords are present. In rare cases where air has entered the uterus, the fetus has been heard crying.



12 Weeks



Month 4: ▶

Fine hair has begun to grow on the head, and sexual differentiation has become apparent. By the end of this month the fetus can hear quite a bit—the mother's voice and heart-beat and external noises.



16 Weeks

20 Weeks



◀ Month 5:

The fetus is about 12 inches long and may jump in reaction to an especially loud or startling sound.

Month 6:

Oil and sweat glands are

functioning. If the baby were born in this month and given proper care, he would survive.

Month 7: The fetus now uses the four senses of vision, hearing, taste and touch. He can recognize his mother's voice.

Month 8: The skin begins to thicken, with a layer of fat stored underneath.

Month 9: Toward the end of this month, the fetus is ready for birth.

For you created
my inmost being;
you knit me together
in my mother's womb.
I praise you because
I am fearfully and
wonderfully made...
My frame was not hidden from
you when I was made
in the secret place.
When I was woven together in
the depths of the earth, your
eyes saw
my unformed body.

Psalm 139:13-15

Distribution of this pamphlet for educational use is encouraged. Please consider a financial gift of support to help us continue to produce quality literature and reveal the truth about the sanctity of human life.



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Human Beginnings



24 Weeks

Fertilization to Birth