Unit focus: Living Things Text focus: Information Text (830L)

Stages of Human Life



Foetus and Baby

Before a baby is born, it needs to develop and grow. From 9 weeks, a baby growing inside the womb of its mother is known as a foetus. A foetus spends roughly nine months developing inside the mother's womb. Babies are completely reliant upon their parents. For the first months of their lives, babies drink milk. All mammal babies require milk; it's one of their unique traits. Babies can't walk but start to develop some

control over their muscles. This starts with being able to control their head and moves on to being able to crawl.

Child

The child stage begins with what is sometimes referred to as being a "toddler". This is when children start to walk, although they are clumsy to begin with. This is the time of a person's life when they begin to talk more, and communication becomes easier. They are now eating solid food and are starting to become less reliant on their parents for their basic needs. However, they still rely on their parents to

protect them from danger.

Adolescent

During adolescence, children will often begin puberty. This is the time in a person's development when their body begins to change ready for adulthood. Puberty begins at different times for every person. Their body will start to produce various hormones and go through physical changes that prepare them for creating children of their own. This is a key part of the life-cycle as, without it, the species would die out.

Hormones and their effect on teenage brains can affect how they react in certain situations. This sometimes means they take bigger risks or can seem very grumpy.

Adolescents begin to become more independent of their parents for many of their needs. They will still be reliant upon adults for their housing and other essential needs.

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Adult

The age at which an adolescent becomes an adult varies across the world. Some of the effects of puberty can continue into a person's 20s, and some countries treat people as adults at different ages. Generally, adulthood begins when your body is fully developed, and you stop growing. As an adult, a person may decide to get a job or have children of their own. They are more responsible for their actions and are completely independent of their parents by this time.

Old Age

This is the final stage of the human life cycle. Parts of the body begin to ache more, and people tend to have more issues with their health. Because eye-sight and hearing start to get worse, and older people have worse balance, they tend to fall more. This can lead to injuries.

During old age, people may become more reliant on other people for their care, and they may become less independent.

VOCABULARY FOCUS

- 1. Which word tells you that babies need their parents to do everything for them?
- 2. What is a "unique trait"?

S

P

- 3. Find a word or phrase that tells you that something isn't the same everywhere.
- 4. Which word describes the period where somebody begins to develop into an adult?
- 5. If somebody is "responsible" for something, what does this mean?

VIPERS QUESTIONS

What are the main changes that happen during adolescence?

From how many weeks is a baby in the womb called a foetus?

Why do babies need their parents to do everything?

When do humans start to eat solid food?

Why do you think that humans can't live forever?

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Answers:

- 1. Reliant
- 2. A particular characteristic or quality that only that thing has
- 3. The age at which an adolescent becomes an adult [varies] across the world.
- 4. Adolescent
- 5. It is up to them to do it/they are needed for it to happen

S: They begin puberty, their body changes ready for adulthood, they produce more hormones and become less dependent on their parents

- R: 9 weeks
- I: They aren't able to control their muscles to do anything
- R: When they are a child/in the child stage
- I: Because the body starts to shut down, eventually it stops.