



Title: How human life begins, pregnancy and birth

Level: SECOND

Links to Curriculum for Excellence

Experiences and outcomes	Benchmarks
I am able to describe how human life begins and how a baby is born. HWB 2-50a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describes human conception and birth, for example, sexual intercourse, egg and sperm, giving birth. • Describes some symptoms of pregnancy.

Learning intentions

- Children know the names for parts of their body required to understand conception, pregnancy and birth.
- Children understand where living things come from.

Success criteria

- I can explain how human life begins, what pregnancy is and how a baby is born.

Resources to support this activity:

- PowerPoint slides
- How a baby develops during pregnancy '(duration 2 minutes 48)
<https://youtu.be/DDb6mMIHtas?si=zBj82eNY0oS6eaTi>

Whenever you use content on a platform like YouTube please cue the film you intend to play in advance, check it is the film you want to view, and skip adverts.

NOTE:

- Before using this learning activity, the group/class should work with you on activity **My body**.
- It would be useful, but not essential, that they have worked on activity **How people have sex**. If delivered together the review of puberty in both lessons might not be necessary.
- This activity is very similar to First level activity **How human life begins, pregnancy and birth**. Children may have used this activity at First Level, if so this is an opportunity to refresh and reinforce learning. If they have not used the earlier First Level activity, then this is an opportunity to support essential learning on this topic. Even if the children have covered the topic in previous years their understanding, discussion and questions may be different.

The activity outlined here is in 3 parts. The intention is that this is delivered as one session, *but this need not be the case*. Some learners might benefit from taking the material in 3 distinct parts. Also, remember that PowerPoint slides can be edited if there is too much detail for the learners you work with, or if you want to create more slides with less text on each.

Activity

1. RSHP learning is enhanced if children can sit together, start this way. The children will have learned the names of parts of the body from activity **My body**. In those activities they also learned more about puberty. Use the initial slides to ask children to remember learning on those topics: **How is their body changing? Their feelings/emotions changing? What names do they remember for private parts of their body?**
2. Explain that in this lesson the children will be learning about how babies are made (this is called fertilisation), how they grow during pregnancy, and what happens when a baby is born. Acknowledge that they might know things about this already – but today everyone can learn together and make sure we all understand. Find out if anyone in the class has little brothers or sisters or cousins? Do they know any woman who is pregnant just now? What do they already know about pregnancy? Birth? (No need to correct any misinformation, just respond if you need to with there will be a chance to learn more about [...] today).
3. The PowerPoint slides provide the story we want to tell in 3 parts, pausing, checking understanding and asking/taking questions and thoughts as you go. Encourage conversation, pause, review as often as is helpful.
4. **By way of introduction**, the slide show starts with pictures of fully-grown animals and their babies - ask children to identify the names of the animals and the name of the baby of each species. End this introduction with the slide of the human mother and child. Explain that all the babies and animals we have seen are alike, *the babies are made, they grow inside the mum, and then they are born.*
5. The slides that follow are in 3 sections, pause and review as you need to:

Part 1: How human life begins

Part 2: The baby grows: Pregnancy

At the start of this section there is an activity that asks children to work together to identify all the things a pregnant woman and her baby need to be healthy, happy and safe. Have the children work in small groups on different themes, or everyone on all 3 themes. The children could work on post-its and make posters of all the responses. Look for and discuss similarities across the themes. There is a review of the ideas at the end of the section.

At the end of this section there is a slide and animation of the developments that take place during a pregnancy: You might want to watch 'How a baby develops during pregnancy' (duration 2 minutes 48) <https://youtu.be/DDb6mMIHtas?si=zBj82eNY0oS6eaTi>

Part 3: How a baby is born

Additional ideas

- Invite a pregnant mum or new parents to come in and explore their experience of pregnancy – and discuss the children's own views on a healthy, happy and safe pregnancy.
- NHS Library Service have a range of models that can be borrowed for schools that show the growing baby during stages of pregnancy. You can find out more information about your local services at <http://www.knowledge.scot.nhs.uk/home/help-and-training/library-services.aspx>

Connecting with home

The text below could be used to communicate with home about the activities in this block of learning.

We will be learning about the baby's story – this means learning about how a baby is made and how it develops in the womb, and then about how a baby is born. The PowerPoint slides we use to tell the baby's story are available here: [insert link](#) You can view them with your child and they will tell you what they have been learning.

Practitioner Notes