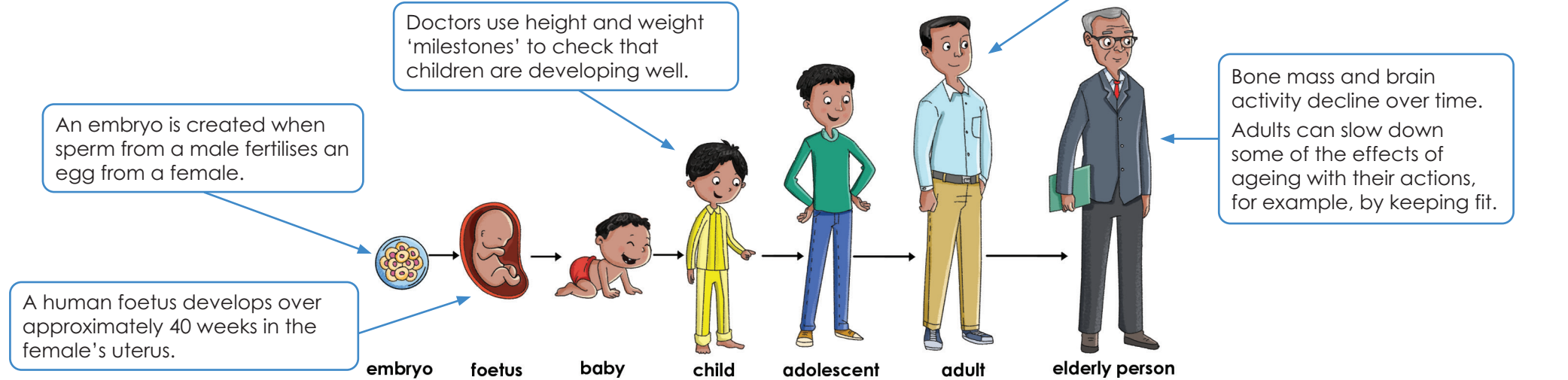


Growing older

Humans go through different stages of development in their lifetime.



Gestation period (pregnancy)

Gestation period is the length of time when the foetus develops in the female's uterus.

The gestation period is different for different animals.

Larger animals like elephants, have a longer gestation period.

Smaller animals, like mice, have a shorter gestation period and often give birth to bigger litters.



Adolescence

Adolescence is the stage of development in humans between childhood and adulthood.

Puberty is the name for the physical changes that happen during adolescence. They occur so that adults can reproduce.

Adolescents experience changes in the way they:

- look
- think
- feel
- behave

Emotional changes are caused by hormones.

Hormones are chemical messengers that travel around the body in the blood.

Word	Definition
Adolescence	The human development stage between childhood and adulthood.
Adulthood	The human development stage between adolescence and old age.
bone mass	A measure of the amount of minerals (mostly calcium) in a known volume of bone.
Breasts	A woman's chest: two organs which produce milk after childbirth.
Fertility	The ability to have children.
Foetus	An unborn or unhatched offspring of a mammal.
gestation period	The time when a female is pregnant with a foetus.
Hormones	Chemical messages that travel around the body in the blood.
litter	The number of young born at the same time.
menstruation (period)	The loss of the lining of the uterus with some blood.
ovum	The female egg that is fertilised to create an embryo.
penis	Male sexual organ that carries urine or sperm out of the body.
pregnant	To have a foetus developing in the uterus.
puberty	Physical changes that occur during adolescence.
pubic hair	The hair that grows around the sexual organs.
sperm	The male cell that fertilises the egg to create an embryo.
testicles	Two oval organs that produce sperm in men and other male mammals.
umbilical cord	The link between a foetus and a mother: how the foetus gets nutrition.
uterus	The organ in the female body where a baby develops.
vulva	The outer part of the female sexual organ.