

Humans - Birth to Old Age

When they are born, all babies can do is drink milk and cry when they want some more. Soon, though, they become young children and quickly learn a range of new skills. These include walking, talking and using their hands to pick things up.

By around five, children have developed lots of skills, which they can use to find out all about the world around them. Their bodies are full of energy and their minds are interested and excited.

At around twelve, children start turning into adults. They grow hair in different areas, boys' voice drop and girls begin to grow breasts.

This process is complete by about eighteen. Most people are fully grown and their muscles are at full strength by this age.

Gradually, then, over the next fifty years or so, parts of the body start to wear out. Hair turns grey or falls out, skin becomes wrinkly and saggy and eyesight and hearing grow weaker. Luckily, though, with most people, the brain works better than ever in old age, because of all the things they have learned in their lives.

1. Are babies born with many skills? What can and can't they do?

2. What are the most important skills, and when do we learn them?

3. When and how do children turn into adults?

4. Would you rather be a child or an adult? Explain why.
