

Knowledge Organiser

Year Group	Subject	Topic
5	Science	Animals, including Humans

The Big Picture

In this unit, the children will learn about animals and humans - focusing mainly on life cycles, gestation periods and lifespans of common mammals and humans. We will begin by learning about how humans develop by considering each of the six stages of the human life cycle: foetus, baby, child, adolescent, adult and elderly adult. The children will work to explore key milestones in baby and child development, understanding how communication also develops. We will learn about puberty as the process of changing from a child to an adult, preparing humans for reproduction. The children will learn at what ages puberty can happen and explore the key changes that occur throughout puberty. Learning will move onto exploring the gestation periods (the time a foetus develops in its mother's womb) of a variety of mammals. They will work to record data and analyse it to identify any patterns or trends in mammals' gestation periods.

Enquiry Question

What are the six stages of the human life cycle?
What key changes happen to both boys and girls during puberty?
What physical changes occur in late adulthood?

Which mammal has the longest gestation period?
Is there a relationship between the gestation period of an animal and its lifespan?

Key Vocabulary

Adolescent	The stage between childhood and adulthood, from around age 11 to 17.
Foetus	An unborn baby growing inside the mother's womb.
Gestation	The period of time that a foetus develops in its mother's womb.
Hormone	A chemical released by the body that causes physical and emotional changes during puberty.
Lifespan	The period of time that an animal is alive.
Life cycle	A series of stages a living thing goes through during its life.
Offspring	The young of a living thing.
Period	Normal bleeding from the vagina that is part of a female's monthly cycle.
Puberty	The process that prepares humans for reproduction.
Womb	The organ in mammals in which a baby develops.

