

# Berk Chapter 3 Prenatal Development

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Typical / Atypical Development in Early  
Childhood

Week 4

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# Motivations For Parenthood

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- Advantages and disadvantages of having children
- Poverty, education
- Deciding how many children to have; ideal family size
- One child families
- Too old to have children?
- Medical advances vs. fertility problems

# Prenatal Development

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- The sperm and ovum
- The largest cell in the human body
- Cervix, uterus, fallopian tube
- fertilization

# The Period of the Zygote

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- Lasts about 2 weeks
- By the 4<sup>th</sup> day: Blastocyst, embryonic disk, trophoblast
- Between the 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> day: Implantation, amnion, amniotic fluid
- By the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> week: Chorion, placenta, umbilical cord

# The Period of the Embryo

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- From implantation to the 8<sup>th</sup> week
- Most dramatic prenatal phase
- Three layers of cells: ectoderm, mesoderm, and endoderm
- Spinal cord forms (neural tube)
- Eyes, ears, nose, jaw, and neck form
- The embryo can now sense its world

# The Period of the Fetus

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- Lasting until the end of pregnancy; “Growth and Finishing” phase
- The third month: Organs, muscles, and nervous system connect; brain signals; lungs expand; begins to move
- The second trimester: stimulated and irritated by sounds; mom can feel it move; vernix, lanugo
- The third trimester: age of viability; brain growth; personality/temperament development; can feel pain

# Environmental Influences

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- Teratogens
- Prescription and nonprescription drugs
- Illegal drugs
- Tobacco
- Alcohol; Fetal alcohol syndrome; Fetal alcohol effects
- Radiation
- Environmental pollution
- Infectious disease; rubella; acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS); toxoplasmosis

# Other Maternal Factors

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- Exercise
- Nutrition
- Emotional stress
- RH blood incompatibility; Rh factor incompatibility
- Maternal age

# For a Healthy Pregnancy

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- DO...
  - Get vaccinated
  - See a doctor right away
  - Continue with regular checkups
  - Obtain literature
  - Eat a well balanced diet and take vitamins
  - Keep fit with mild exercise
  - Avoid emotional stress
  - Get plenty of rest
  - Enroll in a prenatal education class
- DON'T...
  - Take any drugs
  - Smoke
  - Drink alcohol
  - Engage in activities that would expose you to radiation or chemical pollutants
  - Engage in activities that would expose you to infectious diseases
  - Go on a diet
  - Gain too much weight

(Berk, 2005, 121)

# What's next?

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- Watch the rest of the video clips
- Respond to the weekly response question and post on the discussion board
- Give two people feedback on their response
- Study the important terms and concepts (p 127) from chapter 3
- Visit [www.ablongman.com/berk](http://www.ablongman.com/berk) for further resources and practice quizzes
- Begin reading chapter 4 for next week