



Supporting the birth that is right for you!

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## What is going on in there?

A Parent's Guide to the Developmental Stages of Gestation

*By Rebecca Pugh*

### 2 Months (2-9 weeks)

- My baby is less than ½ inch long
- All major organs are formed, but not completely developed
- Slight movement begins
- My baby's face begins to develop

### 3 Months (11-14 weeks)

- The baby's heartbeat can be heard
- My baby is about 2 inches long
- Sex organs are developing
- Vital organs continue developing

### 4 Months (15-18 weeks)

- My baby now measures about 8-10 inches and weighs about ½ pound
- Baby's fingers and toes have soft nails
- My baby begins to kick, twist, jump and somersault
- Hair is growing on my baby's head and eyebrows begin to appear

### 5 Months (19-22 weeks)

- I can feel the baby move!
- My baby is now about 9-10 inches long and weighs about 1 pound
- Vital organs like the lungs and brain continue to develop
- My baby can suck its thumb
- Baby's growth slows down a little

### 6-7 Months (23-30 weeks)

- My baby weighs nearly 2 pounds and is about 12 inches long
- Baby's eyes can now open
- Fine hair covers my baby's body
- Baby's face is fully formed
- My baby is thin and has wrinkled skin

### 8 Months (31-34 weeks)

- My baby is about 15 inches long and weighs about 4.5 pounds
- My baby can kick and stretch, smile and yawn
- My baby can respond to light and sound

### 9 Months (35-40 weeks)

- My baby weighs about 5-6 pounds and may gain about a half a pound a week in the last month
- My baby measures about 18-22 inches
- Baby's lungs are able to breathe on their own
- Baby's brain continues to develop after birth