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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Time (Weeks)** | **Length (mm)** | **Mass (g)** | **Development Stages** |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | Fertilisation |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | Embryo reaches uterus. Implantation. |
| 2 | 0 |  | A flat, 2-layered disc i.e. only ectoderm and endoderm. Sac-like digestive tract with no mouth or anus. Umbilical cord forming. |
| 3 | 2.5 |  | 3 layers present; ectoderm, mesoderm and endoderm. Beginnings of skeletal and nervous systems. |
| 4 | 6 |  | Simple 2-chambered heart, beating 60 beats/min. Tail, gill pouches, limb buds. Muscular system forming. Neural tube closing to form spinal cord and brain. |
| 5 | 12 |  | Mouth, eyes, webbed fingers and toes, lungs and regions of digestive canal form. |
| 6 | 16 | 1 | Cerebral hemispheres, face, ears form. |
| 7 | 19 | 2 | Eyes open. Tail disappears. |
| 8 | 26 |  | All major systems formed. Now called a foetus. Ossification (replacing cartilage by bone) begins. Makes small movements, but not yet felt by mother. |
| 9 | 38 |  |  |
| 12 | 90 | 30 | External genital organs developed. |
| 16 | 150 | 180 | ‘Quickening’ (movement) felt by mother. Heart can be heard. |
| 21 | 300 | 450 | Heart rate 140 beats/min. Head hair appears. Skin glands produce vernix caseosa (a white, creamy paste) to protect delicate new skin. Sleeps and wakes. |
| 25 | 350 | 875 | Vigorous movements. |
| 30 | 400 | 1425 | Testes descend. Fat deposited under skin. Fine hair (lanugo) covers head and body. |
| 34 | 450 | 2375 | Lanugo drops away. Takes up birth position, head down usually. |
| 38 | 500 | 3250 | Full term. Skin covered with cheese-like vernix caseosa. Foetus has moved down into pelvis. Foetus’ pituitary signals for birth to begin. |

Note: These data have been obtained by combining several sources. Figures are rounded for simplicity.