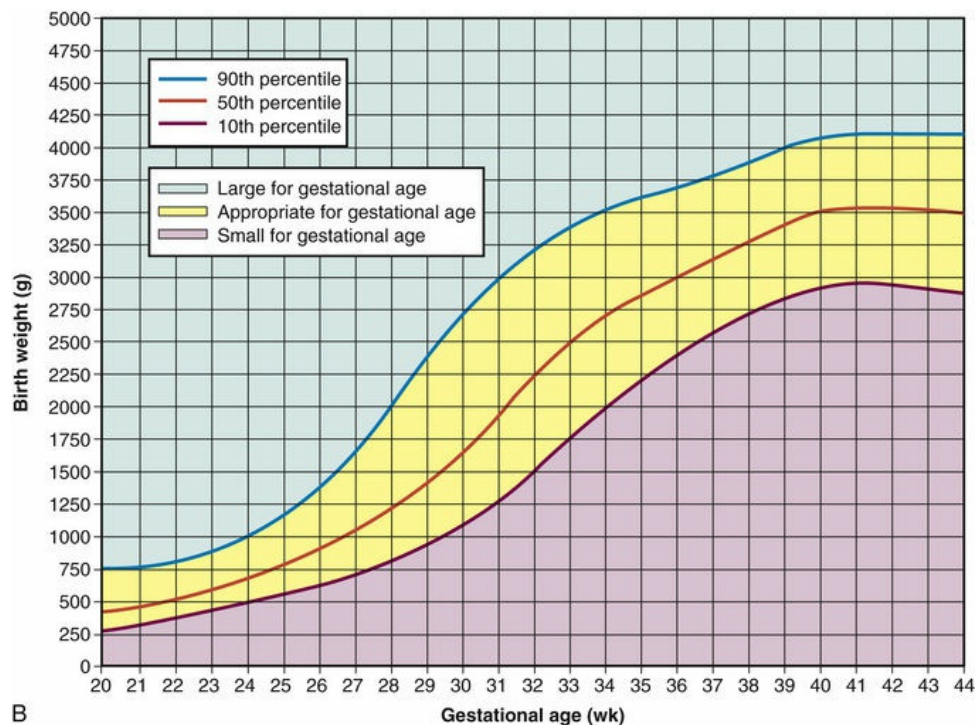


A, Ballard scale for newborn maturity rating. Expanded scale includes extremely premature infants and has been refined to improve accuracy in more mature infants. (A, From Ballard JL, Khoury JC, Wedig K, et al: New Ballard score expanded to include extremely premature infants, *J Pediatr* 119:417, 1991.)



B, Intrauterine growth: birth weight percentiles based on live single births at gestational ages 20 to 44 weeks. (B, Data from Alexander GR, Himes JH, Kaufman RB, et al: A United States national reference for fetal growth, *Obstet Gynecol* 87(2):163–168, 1996.)

FIG 7-1

The NBS includes scores that reflect signs of extremely preterm infants, such as fused eyelids, imperceptible breast tissue, sticky, friable, transparent skin, no lanugo, and square-window (flexion of wrist) angle of greater than 90 degrees (see Fig. 7-1, A, and the