

Anatomy and Physiology of the Oral Mechanism

Birth to 24-Months

Under 3 Months:

Primitive Oral Reflexes

Gag

Root

Transverse Tongue

Phasic Bite

Non-Nutritive Suck

Nutritive Suck

3 to 6 Months:

Volitional Suck

Bilabial Closure

Tongue Tip Elevation

6 to 9 Months:

Biting Using Central Incisors

Graded Jaw Movement

9 to 12 Months:

Volitional transfer of bolus from midline to lateral gums/molar surface for chewing

12 to 24 Months:

Refine Skills of Biting, Chewing, Cup Drinking

Developmental Readiness to Feed

Anatomic and Physiologic Considerations

Emergence of Primitive Oral Reflexes:

Gag Reflex – 32 Weeks.

Rooting Reaction – Mouth Opening at 32 Weeks;
Sequence of Four Closer to Term.

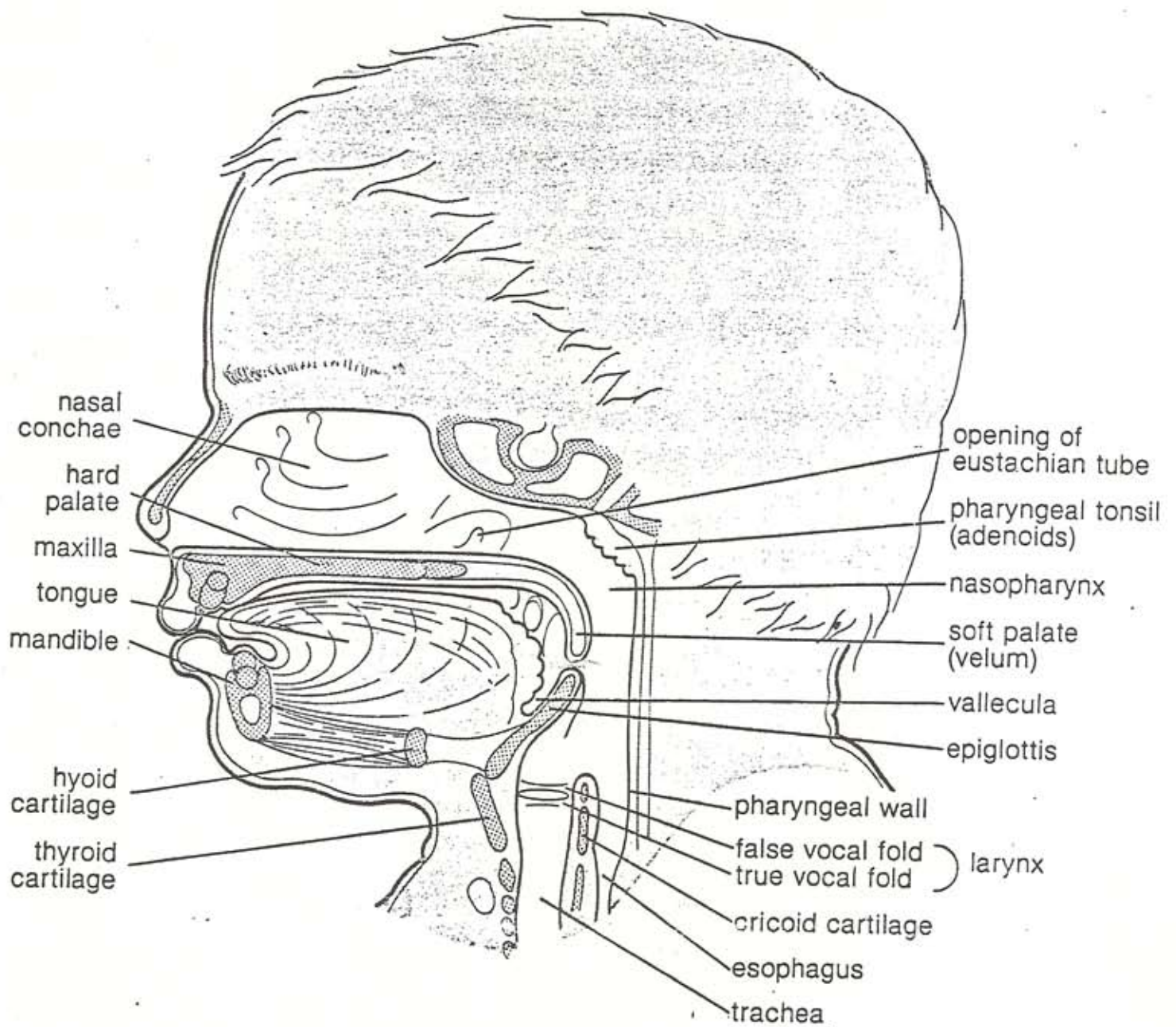
Transverse Tongue Reflex – 28 Weeks.

Phasic Bite – 28 Weeks.

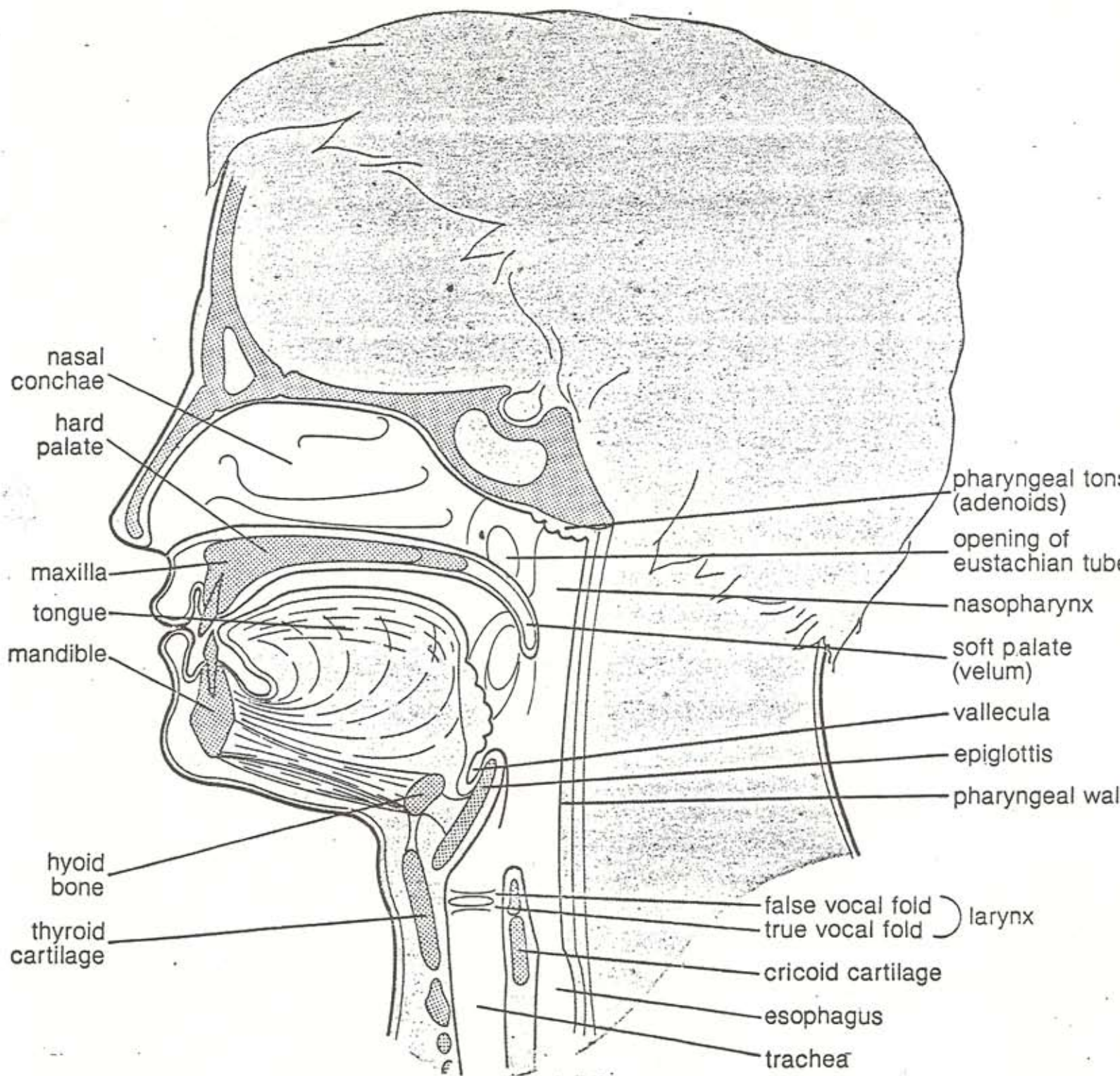
Non-Nutritive Suck – In utero.

Nutritive Suck – Immature Pattern; Mature Pattern.

THE MOUTH AND PHARYNX OF THE NEWBORN (saggital section)



THE MOUTH AND PHARYNX OF THE ADULT (saggital section)



Anatomy and Physiology of the Infant Oral
and Pharyngeal Mechanism

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Compiled by Marjorie Meyer Palmer, M.A.