



## Spiritual Adoption Program

### Weekly Fetal Development of the Baby

*Week 1: Your baby starts out as just two cells joining together—but, boy, do they start growing quickly! You can't see anything without special instruments yet, but the baby is there!! Mom probably doesn't even know the baby is there yet!*

*Week 2: Your baby is beginning to make Mom feel a bit different, but she still might not realize he is growing inside her. He is still growing at an amazing rate, but he doesn't yet look like a baby—he's still too tiny!*

*Week 3: Mom starts realizing she might be pregnant. Your heart, brain, spinal column and nervous system are almost completely formed. You just need time to grow!*

*Week 4: Your heart is starting to beat!!*

*Week 5: Your muscles, arms and legs begin to develop. You have blood flowing through your own veins, separate from your mom's blood.*

*Week 6: Brain waves can be detected—and you are beginning to move, though Mom can't feel it yet.*

*Week 7: Your eyes have formed; your ears are beginning to form. If Mom could reach in and touch you, you would react to her touch!*

*Week 8: You are the size of a grape! Your ears are still forming, your teeth are forming, and you can flex your arms at the wrist and elbow.*

*Week 9: All of your organs, muscles and nerves are beginning to function. You can suck your thumb and make a tiny fist.*

*Week 10: Your brain is developing very quickly these days. You can move your head, smile, and open your mouth. And you can kick!*

*Week 11: You are about the size of a lipstick tube. Mom should be able to hear your heartbeat in the doctor's office now.*

*Week 12: You are twisting, turning and kicking now. Your head hair is beginning to grow.*

*Week 13: You are about 3 inches long, weigh about ½ ounce, and your heart is pumping about 25 quarts of blood each day!*

*Week 14: You weigh about as much as ½ a banana and have your own unique fingerprints now. You can hear sounds and feel pain.*

*Week 15: Loud noises can startle you right now. Your skeleton is hardening, and your fingernails are completely formed.*



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*Week 16: You get the hiccups now. You play with your umbilical cord by pulling, tugging, and squeezing it!*

*Week 17: You weigh about 6 ounces and are about 5 inches long! Your eyes are in place, and permanent teeth buds are forming behind the baby teeth buds.*

*Week 18: Your inner ear bones and nerve endings from the brain have formed, so your hearing is very good! You can hear Mom's heartbeat!*

*Week 19: Your brain is developing very quickly now. You are able to make voluntary muscle movements such as thumb sucking and moving away from light.*

*Week 20: You are about 6 ½ inches long and weigh about 9 ½ ounces now! You move around so much, you might be keeping Mom awake at night!*

*Week 21: You are about the size of a large banana! Rapid eye movements have started, and you continue to practice swallowing.*

*Week 22: You have everything you need for life now!! All you need is time to grow. Your hand is pretty strong at this point.*

*Week 23: You have reached a pound and are about 11 inches long. Your lungs are continuing to develop.*

*Week 24: You now weigh a little over a pound and are about 11 inches long. You are responding to light and sounds from outside the womb.*

*Week 25: Your fingerprints, toenails and fingernails are completely developed now. Your spine is straightening out. Your taste buds are developing, and you can distinguish sweet tastes.*

*Week 26: You weigh about 2 pounds and are about 13 inches long. Brain waves are becoming stronger. You are working on sucking and swallowing.*

*Week 27: Your brain is very active now. Some scientists think you can even dream now! Mom and Dad can hear your heartbeat just by putting their ear on Mom's belly.*

*Week 28: Your brain is working on breathing and maintaining body temperature. Your muscle tone is improving, and your body is filling out with body fat. This will help keep you warm!*

*Week 29: You are over 2 ½ pounds and about 16 inches long. Your skin is less wrinkly, and your eyes are moving around in their sockets.*

*Week 30: You just keep getting bigger! Your digestive tract and lungs are almost completely developed.*



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*Week 31: You are a little over 3 pounds and about 17 inches. You are opening and closing your eyes.*

*Week 32: You keep getting heavier and longer, though you will slow down a bit soon. Your fingernails might be so long you are scratching yourself!*

*Week 33: Your brain is growing quickly now, and the fat you are developing is changing your skin from red to pink.*

*Week 34: You are almost 5 pounds and about 18 inches long. Your lungs are continuing to develop, and your immune system is maturing so it can fight diseases once you are born.*

*Week 35: You keep gaining weight and growing in length. Your lungs are almost finished developing and your hearing is completely developed. You take up a lot of room inside Mommy!*

*Week 36: You have strong bones now, and the muscles that help you suck are plumping up your face! Your liver and kidneys are working!*

*Week 37: Your lungs are done developing, and you can grasp things with your hands! The doctor will let you be born if it's time. You might even have a head full of hair already!*

*Week 38: Because you are getting ready to be born, your lungs are practicing breathing-and you might get the hiccups! You are about 7 pounds and 21 inches.*

*Week 39: You are all set to be born. You are so big now, you don't have much room to move inside Mommy. Your immune system is still getting stronger.*

*Week 40: Happy Birthday! You should be born by now! You have more than 70 automatic reflexes that help you survive outside of Mommy. You probably weighed around 7 ½ pounds and were about 21 ½ inches long.*