
Glossary

Adolescence	- The bridge between childhood and adulthood refers to age growth of 12-19 years, during which an individual attains sexual maturity
Adrenal Gland	- It is one of the endocrine glands that produces variety of hormones
Adulthood	- 20 years of age and is further divided into 3 stages – young, middle and late childhood
AIDS	- Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome – Viral disease that undermines effective functioning of the immune system.
Amenorrhea	- Absence of menstrual cycle during active sexual period of life
Amniotic Sac	- The sac which holds and protects the embryo
Anemia	- A condition in which the red corpuscles of the blood are reduced in number or are deficient in hemoglobin, causing pallor, shorten of breath and palpitation of the heart.
Angn wadi	- Anganwadi is a court yard or play center located within the village and focal point for delivery of services provided under ICDS.
Antenatal Care (Prenatal Care)	- Care shown to the woman throughout her pregnancy in order to prevent any potential health problems, prevent complications which may occur and ensure a normal labour, delivery. It is a preventive health care that will benefit both mother and child
Antibodies	- A blood protein produced in response to and counteract specific antigens
Antig ns	- A toxin or substance which induces an immune response
Anxiety	- Bodies natural response to stress
Attachment	- Reciprocal, enduring bond between infant and caregiver, each of whom contribute to the qa lity of the relationship.
Attention	- The process of selecting specific stimulus from the environment or surroundings is attention.
Attention span	- Attention span is how long the child can focus and concentrate is attention on a given task or activity.
Autosomes	- The 22 pairs of chromosomes that are not sex chromosomes.
Axon	- Single long nerve fiber that carries outgoing messages from the neurons cell body.
Babinsky Reflex	- Fanning of the toes by the infant when the sole of the foot is stimulated
Babbling	- Consonant-vowel intonation patterns of an infants language usually seen around 6 months of age

Blastocyst/Bastulla	- The further division of cells in the morula
Body Proportion	- Body proportion is the measurement of the body parts in relation to the whole body
Cartilag	- Infants bones are made of soft, flexible tissues called cartilage
Cephalocaudal Sequence	- An organized pattern of physical growth and motor control that proceeds from head to feet.
Childhood	- The period from the birth to twelve or thirteen years.
Child Development	- Child development is a specialized area of study which concerns itself with Growth and development of the child right from the moment of conception to adolescence.
Children with special Needs	- Children with special needs include those whose intellectual emotional Needs or physical performance differs significantly from the expected average within their peer and cultural group
Chromosome	- A thread like structure carrying genetic material of an organism
Chronological age	- Refers to the age of a person from birth to death
Cognition	- The process by which we perceive, know or understand something. It is the act of knowing or the processes involved in knowing.
Cognitive Development	- Cognitive Development is the construction of thought processes including remembering, problem solving and decision making
Colostrum	- The first milk from the mother's breast occurring shortly before or during the first days after childbirth. It is rich in protein and antibodies
Communication	- Interchange of thoughts and feelings
Comprehension	- Ability to understand
Concept Formation	- A concept is an abstract idea or notion, which combines elements of an object or event into the idea.
Conception	- Implantation of the embryo in the uterus
Cooing	- Vowel sounds produced by infants by the end of first month after birth
Cranial region	- Area above the eyes, encompasses upper part of the head.
Creativity	- Creativity is the mental process of manipulating environment which results in the production of new ideas, pattern or relationship
Cueing	- Signal that encourages the infant to take action
Curiosity	- Quality related to inquisitive thinking
Darwinian Reflex	- Darwinian Reflex is known as Palmar grasp. When an object touches the palm of an infant, he or she automatically grasps it

Delivery	- Delivery is the process of giving birth to a baby either by vaginal passage or caesarean section
Dendrites	- Short nerve fibers that pick up messages and then carry them to the neuron's cell body
Dental enamel	- Glossy coating on teeth
Development	- The quantitative and qualitative changes that take place in an organism from its initial state, through maturity until death
Developmental Milestone	- Levels of achievement or competence, which at a given age are considered to be necessary or desirable for socially acceptable functioning
Digestion	- Process by which the ingested food is broken into materials in the digestive system
Disability	- The term Disability refers to a total or partial behavioral, mental, physical or sensory loss of functioning
DNA	- Deoxyribose Nucleic Acid, chemical that carries inherited instructions for the formations and functions of body cells
Domains	- Refers to specific aspects of growth and change like physical, motor, Cognitive, social, emotional, moral
Ectoderm	- Outer layer of the embryo
Elimination	- Removal of solid, undigested waste from the body
Embryonic Stage (Period of Embryo)	- Second stage of gestation (2 to 8 weeks) characterized by rapid growth and development of major body system and organs of embryo
Emotional Development	- Refers to development of emotions and their effect on personal and social adjustment
Emotional Expressions	- How individuals express their emotions
Emotions	- A complex psychological phenomenon which occurs as intense feelings that are directed at someone or something.
Endocrine Glands	- Endocrine Glands are ductless glands which are situated in different parts of the body that secrete chemical substances called hormones
Endoderm	- Inner layer of the embryo
Eye-hand Coordination	- Eye hand coordination is the co-ordinated control of eye movement with hand movement and the processing of visual movement to guide reaching and grasping
Fertilization	- Union of sperm and ovum to produce a zygote
Fetal Stage (Period of fetus)	- Final stage of gestation (From 9 weeks to birth) characterized by increased detail of body parts and greatly enlarged body size

Fine Motor Skills	- Physical abilities which involves small muscle groups
Fontanelles	- Soft spots on the neonates head
Fraternal Twins	- Twins conceived by the union of two different ova (or single ovum that has split) with two sperm cells
Frontal Lobe	- The front part of brain that controls important cognitive skills such as memory, language, judgement.
Genes	- A unit of DNA that is located on a chromosome responsible for traits of an individual
Gestation	- Period between conception and birth during which development of fetus takes place
Glial Cells	- Supporting cells of the nervous system. Hold the neurons in place
Grasp	- To hold firmly
Gross Motor Skills	- Physical abilities which involves large muscle groups
Growth Hormone	- A hormone secreted by pituitary gland that affects growth and development of all tissues except the central nervous system
Growth	- Growth refers to quantitative change. Example - height, weight etc.
Heredity	- Genetic attributes inherited from the biological parents at the time of fertilization
Holophrase	- Form of speech where single words convey complex meaning
Hormones	- Chemical substances secreted by the endocrine gland
Identical Twins	- Twins resulting from the division of a single zygote after fertilization
Illness	- Period of any ailment which affects the body/mind
Imagination	- It is the act or power of forming a mental image of something not present to the sense or even before wholly perceived in reality
Immunization	- The process of rendering a subject immune or of becoming immune, protecting against any particular disease, as by inoculation
Implantation	- Fixation of ovum in the uterine wall
Infancy	- Period from birth to two years which is subdivided into neonatal (birth to 15 days), infancy (15 days to 18 months), toddlerhood (18 to 24 months)
Infant Stimulation	- Infant Stimulation includes activities that arouse or stimulate babies senses of sight, sound, touch, taste and smell
Kwashiorkor	- A form of malnutrition caused by protein deficiency in the diet of an infant
Language	- A means of communication

Language Development	- Acquisition of language of the respective cultural subgroups. Language enables people to communicate information, meanings, intentions, thoughts and requests as well as to organize ideas and express emotions
Late Adulthood (Old age)	- Refers to age group from 60 years onwards
Learning	- Changes in the individual as a result of experience and practice
Malnutrition	- A condition in which the body does not receive adequate nutrients for proper functioning.
Marasmus	- Under nourishment causing a child's weight to be significantly low for their age
Meconium	- Meconium is a sticky greenish black waste matter formed in the intestines of a neonate
Memory	- It is a process of storing information that can be retrieved whenever required or needed
Menarche	- The period (age) when menstrual cycle starts is called menarche
Menstruation	- Periodic shedding of the uterine lining, also refers to discharge of blood and mucus from uterus
Menopause	- The period (age) when the menstrual cycle stops is called menopause
Mesoderm	- Middle layer of the embryo
Micturition	- Frequent urination
Middle Adulthood	- Refers to age group from 40-60 years
Milestone	- An important stage in development
Miscarriage	- Spontaneous or unplanned loss of fetus from the womb before it is viable
Moral	- Concerned with what is right and wrong behavior, acceptable and unacceptable behaviour
Moro Reflex	- 'Startle' response to sudden change in position or loud noise
Morula	- The zygote which further subdivides and forms a cluster of cells
Motor Control	- The ability to control the muscles that bring about movement in the body
Motor Development	- The Development of control over bodily movements through the coordinated activity of the nerve centres, the nerves and muscles
Myelin	- An insulating fatty sheath on nerve fibers
Myelination	- The coating of neural fibers with an insulating fatty sheath i.e. myelin, that improves the efficiency of message transfer

Neonate	- A new born baby upto two weeks old
Neonatal period/stag	- The period from birth to 15 days
Neurons	- Nerve cells that store and transmit information in the brain
Nutrition	- Process of providing or obtaining the food necessary for health and growth
Ontog netic Function	- Functions that are acqi red through environmental factors such as training, opportunities and practice
Operant Conditioning	- Learning Process through which a behaviour of an infant is modified by reinforcement
Ossification	- Hardening of the bones due to deposition of the minerals, calcium and phosphorus
Ovaries	- Oval shaped ovum producing organs that lie on either side of uterus
Ovulation	- Release of egg cell from the ovary
Ovum	- Reproductive cell of a female
Perception	- Perception is the cognitive process that gives organization and meaning to sensory information such as what we see, hear, touch, smell and taste
Period of Ovum	- First two weeks of prenatal development characterized by rapid cell division and implantation in the wall of the uterus
Physical Development	- Development of the body and its parts
Phylog netic Function	- Functions that are acqi red with age and do not requi re any training
Placenta	- Provides nourishment, oxygen to fetus and removes its body waste
Postnatal	- Period after birth
Preg ancy	- Period when a female carries a developing embryo or fetus within her Uterus
Prematurity	- Infant who is born before 37 completed weeks of gestation and who weighs less than 2500 gms at birth is called prematurity
Prenatal Period	- The period from the time of conception until the onset of labor and birth
Preschool Child	- A child in the age group 3-6 years. This period extends from about 3 years of age and till entrance into formal school at 5 or 6ye ars of age
Pre-speech forms	- Substitutes forms of communication used by infants in order to make their needs and wants known
Proximodistal Sequence	- An organized pattern of physical growth and motor control that proceeds from central axis to extremities

Puberty	- A period of hormonal changes in boys and girls leading to sexual maturity
Quickening	- Movement of the fetus felt by the mother
Reasoning	- Method of problem solving based on a set of rules, attributing a cause
Reflex	- An inborn automatic response to a particular form of stimulation
Reproduction	- Process by which offsprings are produced through parents
Rooting Reflex	- Response to a stimulus of a newborn infant by turning towards the source of stimulation
Schema	- Basic building blocks of intelligent behaviour – a way of organizing knowledge
Sensory	- Relating to physical senses perceived through touch, smell, taste, sight and hearing
Sensory-motor stag	- First stage of cognitive development, a period from birth to two years, infants gain knowledge using their senses and movements
Separation Anxiety	- Infants become anxious or upset when they are separated from the primary caregivers
Sex Determination	- Establishment of the sex of the individual at the time of fertilization
Skeletal Development	- Increase in size, shape, number of bones and change in composition of bones
Skeleton	- Framework of bones inside the body
Skull	- The bony framework of the head
Social Development	- Acquisition of ability to behave in accordance with social expectation The Development of the ability to get adjusted to the group. It includes the learning of ways and means of establishing relationship with people and becoming an accepted member of the group
Social Referencing	- Process where an infant takes cues from other people in the environment
Social Smile	- Intentional gesture of warmth expressed by infants
Sperm	- Male reproductive cell
Stimulation	- Action of arousing interest, enthusiasm or excitement in an individual
Stranger Anxiety	- Infants become worried or fearful when someone unfamiliar approaches them
Sucking Reflex	- Vigorous sucking movements of the infant on slight stimulation of lips, cheeks or chin
Supplementary Feeding	- Feeding in addition to breast milk
Synapse	- The gap between the neurons across which chemical messages are sent

Temperature Regulation-	- Temperature regulation is the process by which the body tightly controls the internal temperature and preserves a stable internal state to survive
Telegraphic Speech	- A form of communication consisting of simple 2 to 3 words sentences
Testes	- Testes are glands located in the scrotum of males that produce sperm cells
Thinking	- Thinking is an abstract process in cognitive development which consists of mental rearrangement or manipulation of information from the ear and symbols stored in memory
Toddlerhood Period	- A period from 12-36 months during which the ability to talk and walk is acquired
Tonic neck Reflex	- Tonic neck reflex is known as fencing position. It involves coordination of head, arms and legs
Toxemia	- Condition during pregnancy where the blood pressure increases
Umbilical Cord	- The vital link connecting the placenta and the fetus/baby
Vernix Caseosa	- White, cheesy, protective layer, covering the skin of a neonate
Weaning	- Introducing an infant to food other than mother's milk
Young Adulthood	- Refers to age group from 20-40 years
Zygote	- One-celled organism resulting from fertilization

