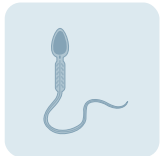


Pack 9: How You Grew



Egg Cell

One of the largest cells in the body, just about visible without a microscope. It waits in the ovary, carrying half the DNA needed to make a person.



Sperm Cell

One of the smallest cells in the body. It carries the other half of the DNA, and its long tail whips from side to side to swim toward the egg.



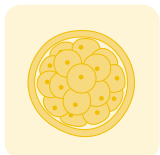
Zygote

The single cell made when egg and sperm join, with a full set of DNA, half from each parent. Every cell in your body grew from this first cell.



Two Cells

About a day after fertilization, one cell becomes two, then four, then eight. Sometimes the whole group splits in two, and each half becomes a baby. That is how identical twins happen.



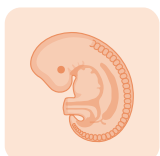
Morula

By day four there are about sixteen cells packed into a ball. The name comes from the Latin for mulberry, which is more or less what it looks like.



Blastocyst

The ball hollows out and the cells stop being identical. The outer layer will become the placenta, and the small cluster inside will become the baby.



Embryo

By six weeks there is a curled shape with a beating heart and small buds where the arms and legs will be. Fingers and toes come next.



Baby

Nine months after that first cell. Every cell carries the same DNA, and what makes a heart cell different from a skin cell is which parts of it they switch on.