

The Journey of Human Development: A Scientific Report

Learning objective: To describe the changes as humans develop to old age, using scientific vocabulary correctly.

Use the scaffold below to write a formal report about the human life cycle. Nova the Owl suggests you look closely at each stage of growth and think about how our needs change over time.

The human life cycle is a fascinating process that begins at birth and continues through several distinct stages until old age.

Word bank: infancy · adolescence · puberty · independence · maturity · development · consequently · furthermore · significantly · in comparison

1. Introduction: Define what the human life cycle is and identify the key stages. Start your writing with: The human life cycle consists of several stages including... (2 marks)

2. Infancy and Childhood: Describe the characteristics of these early stages. Start your writing with: During infancy, a human is completely dependent on others, but as they grow into childhood... (3 marks)

3. Adolescence: Explain the physical and emotional changes that occur during this time. Start your writing with: Adolescence is a period of significant change, often marked by the onset of puberty, which involves... (3 marks)

4. Adulthood: Discuss the characteristics of adulthood and how it differs from earlier stages. Start your writing with: When a person reaches adulthood, they typically achieve independence and... (2 marks)

5. Conclusion: Summarise the importance of the life cycle. Start your writing with: In conclusion, the journey from birth to old age involves many physical and mental developments which ensure that... (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Research and add a paragraph explaining one specific change that happens to the human brain or body during the transition from childhood to adolescence.