In this video, we will explore the development of the fetus from fertilization to birth.

After fertilization and cell division the embryonic stage begins.

At just 3 weeks the embryo’s heart is developing and the neural tube forms. The neural tube will develop into the eyes, brain and nervous system. At this point the embryo is about as big as the tip of a pen. (1/8 inch)

At week 4 facial features are beginning to form and the heart is pumping blood through the body.

At just five weeks the nose and eyes develop and the beginning of arms and legs appear. At this point the embryo is about the size of a pea.

For the next few weeks growth is rapid, and eyes, ears, fingers and toes form.

At 8 weeks the embryo is just over 1 inch long.

By the beginning of the 11th week all of the organ systems are developed and at this point the embryo is known as the fetus.

By 16 weeks the fetus’ gender can be distinguished and it has grown to about 6 inches in length and about 6 ounces in weight. The hair, eyebrows and eyelashes growing as it approaches the fifth month.

From this point on the fetus will grow in size and weight until birth at about 7 pounds.