The Developing Person
Prenatal Development and the Newborn

- Developmental Psychology
  - a branch of psychology that studies physical, cognitive and social change throughout the life span
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- **Zygote**
  - the fertilized egg
  - enters a 2 week period of rapid cell division
  - develops into an embryo

- **Embryo**
  - the developing human organism from 2 weeks through 2nd month

- **Fetus**
  - the developing human organism from 9 weeks after conception to birth
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40 days       45 days       2 months       4 months
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- **Teratogens**
  - agents, such as chemicals and viruses, that can reach the embryo or fetus during prenatal development and cause harm

- **Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS)**
  - physical and cognitive abnormalities in children caused by a pregnant woman’s heavy drinking
  - symptoms include misproportioned head
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- **Rooting Reflex**
  - tendency to open mouth, and search for nipple when touched on the cheek

- **Preferences**
  - human voices and faces
    - facelike images
  - smell and sound of preferred
Prenatal Development and the Newborn

- **Habituation**
  - decreasing responsiveness with repeated stimulation
Infancy and Childhood: Physical Development

- **Maturation**
  - biological growth processes that enable orderly changes in behavior
  - relatively uninfluenced by experience