

## Fun Baby Facts



1. Every three seconds, somewhere in the world, a baby is born.
2. A baby has 300 separate bones at birth but by adulthood we have only 206. *Why? Because some bones, like the skull, fuse together later.*
3. A newborn baby's head accounts for about one-quarter of its entire weight.
4. Babies are born without kneecaps.
5. Much like after they are born, babies eat first. Using the umbilical, they take the nutrients they need and leave mom the rest. This is why it's so important for a woman to eat a healthy diet during pregnancy.
6. In 1970, the average stay in a hospital to give birth was 4.1 days, by 1993 it was 2.6 days, now it is around 2 days.
7. Babies and toddlers, weight for weight, are stronger than an ox particularly their legs.
8. A child doesn't grow while he has a common cold.
9. By the time of birth, a baby's brain is made up of more than 10 million nerve cells. *It's downhill from here!*
10. A newborn baby will double its weight by six months and triple it by the end of the first year. If it carried on at that rate, it would weigh more than a thousand pounds by the time it was five.
11. The average toddler takes 176 steps a minute...*except at bedtime!*

12. It's well known that a fetus in the womb can hear but tests have shown that fetuses respond to sounds just as vigorously as they respond to pressures and internal sensations.
13. Children born in May are, on average, 200g heavier at birth than children born in any other month of the year.
14. The largest number of children born to one woman is recorded as 69. *Ouch!*
15. Between 1725 and 1765, a Russian peasant gave birth to 16 sets of twins, 7 sets of triplets and 4 sets of quadruplets. *Double, Triple, Quadruple OUCH!!!*
16. The first ever child born in Antarctica was born in 1978. *Brrrr...*
17. Research by the University of Texas has shown that babies like pretty faces better than plain ones – *err... that's pretty obvious, don't we all?*
18. Your baby shares their birthday with at least 9 million other people in the world.
19. Babies are born with very poor vision but can recognize their mothers almost right away.
20. The average child will eat 15lbs of cereal in a year.
21. Excluding medical costs, it's been calculated that new parents in the U.S. typically spend \$7,000 in a baby's first year on everything from nappies to formula to day care.
22. Babies are always born with blue eyes but within a few moments of delivery, their eye color can change.
23. Babies can swim when they are born and can naturally hold their breath; shortly after birth they lose this ability. *Time for swimming lessons then!*
24. Reading to your child at *any* age will increase their knowledge.
25. The human body is better suited for two four-hour sleep cycles than one eight-hour one. *Do babies know something we don't!*
26. Children laugh on average 300 times a day, adults only 60. *Why that was so hilarious probably only a five-year-old really knows.*

27. Until the age of six or seven months, a child can breathe and swallow at the same time. - *and 75% of adults reading this will try to do it!*
28. Babies don't suffer from bad breath because they have no teeth - teeth collect bacteria which makes *breath* smell.
29. Most babies recognize their mothers' voices when they are born, but take around 14 days to learn to recognize their father's voice.
30. Young babies don't sweat because their sweat glands are not fully developed.
31. A four-month-old fetus will turn away if a bright light is shone on the mother's belly. They also react to sudden loud noises.
32. Eating fish during pregnancy can boost your baby's brain power, a study of 7,000 mothers found.
33. When babies are born, parts of their skull overlap to help them squeeze out - leaving the head temporarily cone-shaped after delivery. *Still hurts though!!*
34. A fetus develops unique fingerprints at the age of three months.
35. A newborn baby focuses best at objects that are 10 inches (25cm) from its nose - that's roughly the distance from its mother's breast to her eyes.
36. Babies like high-pitched singing voices.
37. About a quarter of all children go sleepwalking at least once between the ages of 7 and 12.
38. Children grow twice as fast in spring as they do in autumn, but they put on more weight in autumn than in spring.
39. Ultrasound scans often catch babies smiling. But the birth seems to ruin their good mood, as they rarely smile again for around a month after their birth. *A bit like Mom really!*
40. A baby's strongest sense is smell and they can recognize their mothers by scent alone.
41. Babies learn sign language before they can talk. They learn the meaning of waving goodbye, hugging and kissing long before they can speak.

42. An embryo's heart begins to beat just three weeks after conception.
43. Most newborns cry without tears until they are three to six weeks old.
44. As early as at 10 weeks in the womb, your baby will be using one hand more than the other, say researchers - the same one they'll prefer to use after birth.
45. Men are officially the best at changing baby. Research shows that the average time taken by a woman to change a baby is 2 minutes and 5 seconds - but the average man takes only 1 minute and 36 seconds. *It's not a race!!*
46. A new baby usually deprives each of its parents around 350-400 hours of sleep in the first year. That is one entire nights sleep per week, per parent.
47. The heaviest baby ever born was a boy, who weighed 22 pounds, eight ounces. He was born in Italy in 1955. To summarize, it isn't highly unusual for a one year old baby to weigh 22 pounds.
48. At one year old, a baby will have a foot half the size of their adult size. A useful tool for buying those early birthday presents or vintage fashion heels now.
49. By the end of age two, the average baby has been changed 7,300 times. A good way for mom's to put everything in perspective. Average speed of each change? Two minutes, which adds up to three 40 hour work weeks each year.
50. Babies don't wait until they are outside the womb to begin sucking their thumb. In this blog entry, Rambling Madwoman shows you her ultrasound at seven weeks, along with the adorable pictures of thumb sucking and other details.
51. In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson signed the orders that made Mother's Day a national holiday.

*We hope you enjoyed these fun baby facts! 🌸*

