

Inside a womb

Location

Ground floor, All About Us exhibition

In a nutshell

What was it like before you were born? The womb is a unique environment to keep the developing baby safe.



What to do

Students can step into a space designed to simulate a womb-like environment. Over the course of seven minutes, students experience the changes that happen in the womb during pregnancy

Time Required

KS3 & KS4 7 minutes per student.

What's happening?

Once upon a time you were covered in hair, fed through your belly button and able to 'breathe' fluid. Your days were spent floating in a warm, dark womb, where you snoozed, stretched and snoozed some more. You could hear your mother from the inside: her heartbeat, her voice, even the squelches of her tummy rumbling. By six months you started to hear the outside world too - the sounds of muffled voices, music, television and traffic. Although we don't have any firm memories of this time, some babies seem to recognise music and sounds which they heard in the womb.

Curriculum links

KS3	Science - Reproduction <ul style="list-style-type: none">- reproduction in humans (as an example of a mammal), including the structure and function of the male and female reproductive systems, menstrual cycle (without details of hormones), gametes, fertilisation, gestation and birth, to include the effect of maternal lifestyle on the foetus through the placenta English - Reading <ul style="list-style-type: none">- learning new vocabulary, relating it explicitly to known vocabulary and understanding it with the help of context and dictionaries
KS4	Science - Transport systems in multicellular organisms <ul style="list-style-type: none">- describe some of the substances transported into and out of a range of organisms in terms of the requirements of those organisms, to include oxygen, carbon dioxide, water, dissolved food molecules, mineral ions and urea Science - Reproduction <ul style="list-style-type: none">- explain some of the advantages and disadvantages of asexual and sexual reproduction in a range of organisms Science - Waves at material interfaces: applications in exploring structures <ul style="list-style-type: none">- explain, in qualitative terms, how the differences in velocity, absorption and reflection between different types of waves in solids and liquids can be used both for detection and for exploration of structures which are hidden from direct observation, notably in our bodies, in the earth's core and in deep water.

Relates to:

Workshops & Theme Days	Shows	Trails	Other exhibits
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Choose Health (KS3 lower)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How my body works (KS3)		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Before birth• Boy or girl?

