



MY BODY Inside and Out!



What Happens When I Grow?



Ruth Owen

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What Happens When I Grow?



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Words shown in **bold** in the text are explained in the glossary.



Amazing Changes



When you were born, you were less than 2 feet (60 cm) long.



You weighed just a few pounds.



You had no teeth, and your little head had just a soft fuzz of baby hair.

You couldn't walk, talk, ride a bike, or read a book.

It's amazing how much you've changed, but how did it happen? Let's check it out.

What happens when I grow?







Your Changing Skeleton



Inside your body is a framework of **bones** called a **skeleton**.

When you were born, some parts of your skeleton were made of rubbery **tissue** called **cartilage**.

As you grew from a baby to a child, the cartilage changed into hard bone.

When you were a baby, you had about 300 bones in your body.

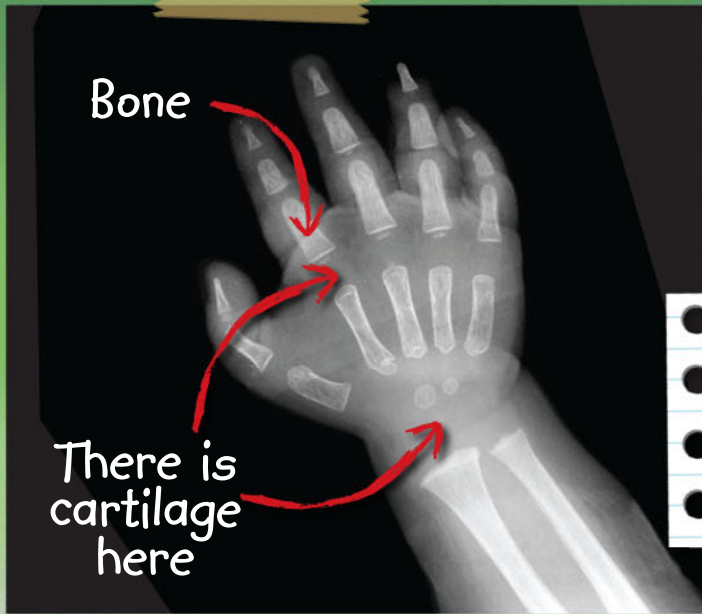
Once you are an adult, you will have 206 bones.

That's because as you grow up, some of your baby bones join together to make bigger bones.

A model of an adult skeleton



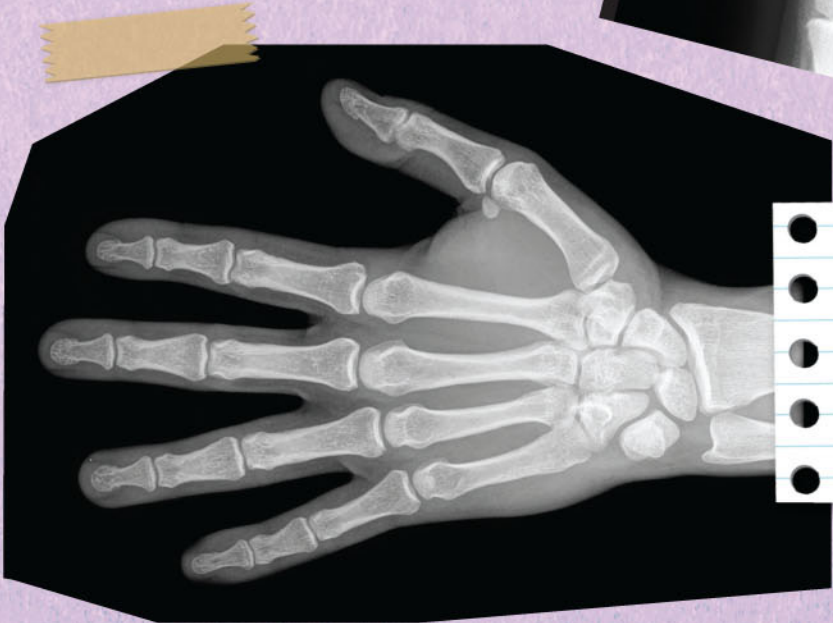
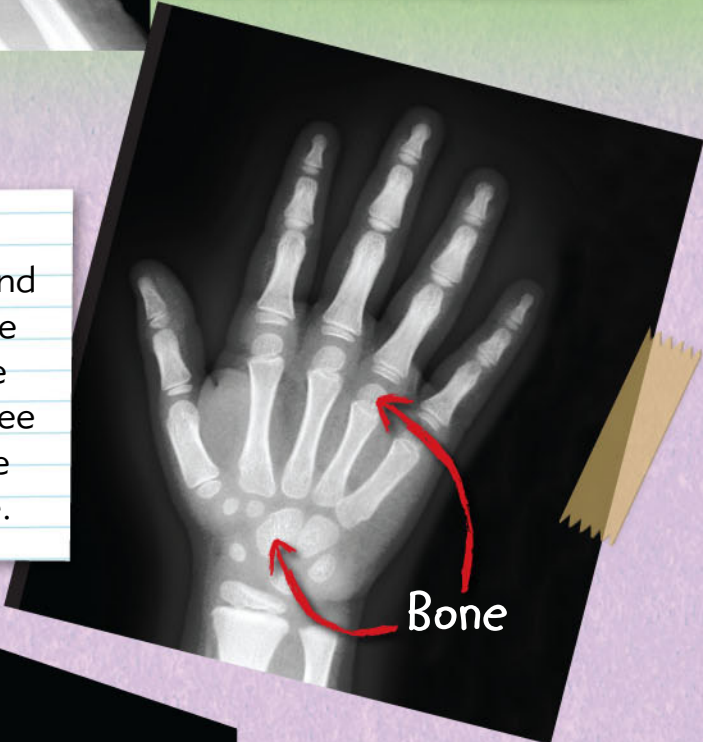
If you want to know what cartilage feels like, touch your ear. The hard, but bendy, parts of your ear are made of cartilage.



These pictures are **X-rays**. An X-ray shows the bones inside a person's body.

This is what your hand and wrist bones looked like when you were a baby.

This is what your hand and wrist looked like when you were five years old. You can see that some cartilage has turned to bone.



This is an adult's hand and wrist. All the bones have finished changing and growing.



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DK Publishing.

First Human Body Encyclopedia (DK First Reference). New York: DK Publishing (2005).

Rowan, Kate.

I Know How My Cells Make Me Grow (Sam's Science). London: Walker (2000).

Learn More Online

To learn more about what happens when you grow, go to
www.rubytuesdaybooks.com/mybodygrow

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What Happens When I Grow?

From a tiny, toothless baby that couldn't walk or talk, you have become who you are today. Find out how your brain, bones, muscles, and other body parts have developed and changed as you've grown bigger and older.

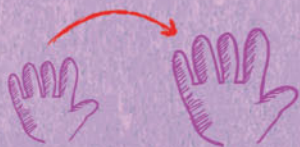
Titles in this series

What Happens When I Eat?

What Happens When I Grow?

What Happens When I Move?

What Happens When I Sleep?



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