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Full term baby definition, now in line with infants mental leaps

Research proved all infants make the same mental development leaps at set times, calculated from the due date, plus or minus one week. So why was a baby called full term if the mental development wasn't full term yet? Well, finally experts on mental development and medical doctors agree when, last Tuesday the journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology announced the terms of a full term pregnancy was being redefined: a baby is full term at 39-40,6 weeks.

"Dr. Jeffrey Ecker of Massachusetts General Hospital, who said that weeks matter, is absolutely right. Especially in the beginning. Our research has proven that the due date is far more important than we generally think. The due date determines the leaps every infant makes at the same time. These leaps determine how they perceive the world. However, how a baby uses these new perceptual ways, that is what makes every baby unique." Frans Plooi, worldwide leading expert on infant development says.

These leaps are better known as 'wonder weeks'. Plooi's research showed that from time to time all parents are plagued by a baby who won't stop crying. All normal healthy babies are more tearful, troublesome, demanding and fussy at the same ages. From our research we are now able to predict, almost to the week, when parents can expect their babies to go through one of those fussy phases, calculated based on a full term pregnancy of 39-40.6 weeks.

More information about Wonder Weeks, including details about the research behind the book, can be found at www.thewonderweeks.com and (in video) <http://www.youtube.com/thewonderweeks>.

To schedule an interview with Dr. Plooi or to receive additional background, please contact: X. Plas, +31 6 418 414 73, xaviera@thewonderweeks.com

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