

Super Women: 5 Amazing Facts About Motherhood

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LiveScience:

Babies may change mom's brain

Pregnancy may cause permanent brain changes in women, according to research published in 2011 in the journal *Current Directions in Psychological Science*. Most of the research on pregnancy brain has been done in rodents, which develop new smell-related brain cells during pregnancy. Humans aren't rats, of course, but at least one brain imaging study has found that new moms have more gray matter four months after birth. Some scientists suspect that the hormones that flood the brain during pregnancy could lead to permanent alterations, just as teenage hormones contribute to adolescent brain development.

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