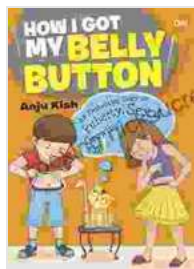


# How I Got My Belly Button: A Journey of Umbilical Cord Detachment



## How I Got My Belly Button by Dot EDU

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language	: English
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
File size	: 8954 KB
Screen Reader	: Supported
Print length	: 267 pages



The human body is a marvel of intricate systems and fascinating processes. One such marvel is the belly button, a seemingly unremarkable

feature that holds a captivating story of our development. This article will take you on a journey from the womb to the present, exploring the process of umbilical cord detachment and the formation of the belly button, that ubiquitous scar that marks our bodies.

## **Umbilical Cord: A Lifeline to the Womb**

During our nine-month stay in the womb, we rely on a lifeline that connects us to our mother, the umbilical cord. This vital structure carries oxygen, nutrients, and antibodies from the mother's bloodstream to the developing fetus, while also removing waste products.

The umbilical cord consists of three blood vessels: two arteries and one vein. The arteries carry deoxygenated blood from the fetus to the placenta, where it is oxygenated and receives nutrients. The vein, on the other hand, carries oxygenated blood and nutrients back to the fetus.

## **Umbilical Cord Detachment**

After birth, the umbilical cord is no longer necessary for the baby's survival. The process of umbilical cord detachment begins shortly after delivery, as the baby's body starts to adjust to life outside the womb.

The first stage of detachment involves the constriction of the umbilical vessels, which reduces blood flow to the cord. This constriction is caused by a combination of hormonal changes and mechanical factors, such as the clamping and cutting of the cord.

As the vessels constrict, the umbilical cord gradually dries up and turns into a hard, leathery structure called the "umbilical stump." This stump typically

falls off within 10 to 21 days after birth, leaving behind a small, round scar —the belly button.

## **Formation of the Belly Button**

The belly button is a circular depression in the abdominal wall, surrounded by a ring of skin. It is a permanent reminder of our connection to our mothers during our time in the womb.

The shape and size of the belly button vary from person to person. Some people have an "outie" belly button, where the scar protrudes slightly from the abdominal wall, while others have an "innie" belly button, where the scar is recessed.

The type of belly button a person has is determined by several factors, including the way the umbilical cord was cut and the thickness of the abdominal wall. Genetics may also play a role.

The belly button, often overlooked as a mere cosmetic feature, is a testament to the remarkable journey we undertake from the womb to the world. It is a scar that symbolizes our connection to our mothers and a reminder of the intricate processes that shape our lives.

Understanding the process of umbilical cord detachment and belly button formation provides a glimpse into the wonders of human development and the beautiful tapestry of life.

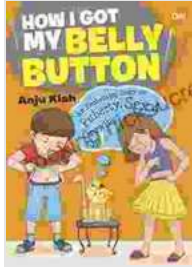
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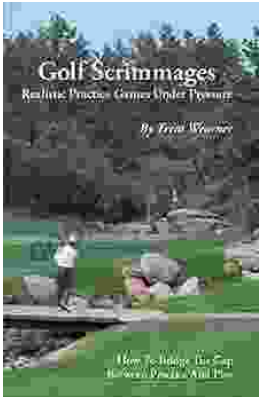
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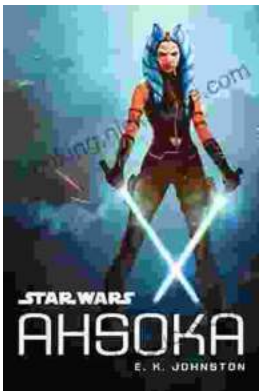


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