DEVELOPMENTAL STAGES
OF THE SECONDARY SEX
CHARACTERISTICS
Teacher Resources

1. Male Genital Development
   A. Pre-puberty-usually none
   B. Initial enlargement of the scrotum and testes; reddening and texture changes of
      the scrotum.
   C. Initial enlargement of the penis; further growth of testes and scrotum.
   D. Further enlargement of the penis, testes and scrotum; growth in breadth and
      development of the glans.
   E. Adult in size and contour.

2. Pubic Hair Development
   A. Pre-puberty-hair over the pubic area similar to that on the abdomen.
   B. Sparse growth of long, straight, downy hair at the base of the penis or along the
      labia.
   C. Hair becomes darker, more coarse and curly; spreads sparsely over the entire
      pubic area.
   D. Further spread of hair distribution not extending to the thighs.
   E. Adult in amount and type.

3. Female Breast Development
   A. Pre-puberty-increased pigmentation of the papilla only.
   B. Enlargement of areolar diameter; small area of elevation around the papillae.
   C. Further elevation and enlargement of breasts and areolas, with no separation of
      the contours.
   D. Areolas and papillae project from the breast to form a secondary mound.
   E. Adult, with projection of the papillae only, recession of the areolas into the
      general breast contour.

4. Other Changes
   A. Pre puberty-usually none.
   B. Usually time of peak height velocity for girls.
   C. Usual point of onset of menstruation. Facial hair begins to grow and voice
      deepens for boys.
   D. Usual time of peak height velocity for boys; axillary hair begins to grow

* The A’s are corresponding time periods, as well as the B’s, C’s, etc.