
Subject: 39 weeks, 1 day: watermelon baby
Posted by [Jamie](#) on Fri, 23 Dec 2011 15:17:23 GMT
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Last week was extremely full. I didn't pack in anything that I had remaining on my to-do list because so many things started popping up last minute which required my time. As it is right now, I have a doctor's appointment every work-day between now and my due-date. I had hoped that there would be one day for Franklin and myself just to "be" before the baby arrived...but it looks like life will just run it's normal course. Really wishing I had pushed more for that babymoon he wanted.

However, the unexpected and unplanned (semi status on both) are going to be positive things in the long run.

After having some difficulties with the doula situations - which she and I both agree were down to the difficulties of being formal with someone you are acquainted with (I think I need that, and I think she doesn't) - Franklin and I interviewed a few doulas and made a selection as well as a back-up selection should something take the first doula out of the running (like being sick, or attending another birth). Our back up choice fell through almost immediately (health) but recommended immediately two other individuals. We only had time to interview one, and Franklin was pleased with what he saw. I'm still personally feeling a little strange with having a stranger in the room for that prolonged and that intimate a time...doulas in general are still a new concept to both of us. It wasn't my "fantasy" birth scenario, but we're taking it to help buffer us in the event of interventions. At least as far as time is concerned.

Then our new kitchen cabinets...which were supposed to be installed with everything (electric/plumbing) up and running before the 20th just weren't happening. The guy coordinating things - nice guy, but didn't follow through with much that we were promised - wasn't returning calls or answering our multi-requests for itineraries. All of a sudden we received a call from a sub-contractor (the ones doing the rip out) on Monday and asked if he could come pretty much right then...that sent us on a scramble to try to call all other parties involved. I didn't want anything torn out unless cabinets were to arrive the following day...and voila we had things bouncing...except that the guy coordinating things neglected to coordinate the electrician and the plumber to actually return after the cabinets....we were sitting around thinking everything was going to go smoothly (especially when the counter top folks said that they could template early *and* do the install the following day instead of waiting until the end of the week or after the holidays when the delay first happened). But it turns out the plumber wasn't set for a return job at all and the electrician stated that he wasn't coming until the Wednesday *after* Christmas.

I was one unhappy and displeased pregnant momma, let me tell you.

Franklin called around town and found an electrician and plumber who could come today before he goes to work...sight unseen is not a good way to get an estimate, but I am desperate to finish this ASAP (I was saving dishes, too, stupidly because I thought we'd have everything set yesterday, so 2 days of dishes built up while I'm running around town for appointments and then trying to sleep at home). I'm not looking forward to restocking our kitchen cabinet/drawers. (OK, I kinda am - we were able to splurge on some neat things.)

On the pregnancy side, the baby is now 9 1/2 pounds. I still don't feel him too awful much...just enough not to worry. He loves stretching much more than kicking/punching...and I swear right now the Braxton Hicks contractions along with his stretching is a bit like a cause and effect circle. One is nearly always followed by another. The ultrasound tech said he looks super (aside from a big head and a big belly everything else is average. I told Franklin this kid is going to look like an orange with toothpicks stuck in for arms/legs. The doctor there feels I should opt for c-section as the only safe route and disagrees with my OB. My OB disagrees with the medical things I'm reading from ACOG about Pitocin. This time around, however, they are both saying yes to my wanting to try some homeopathy things ... I have a feeling it is because they both figure I'll end up having to choose pitocin or c-section in the end so what can it hurt.

Yesterday I tried acupuncture. I could not find an acupressure place (which I think I would have preferred) but this place was recommended by the original back up doula and, bonus, it takes our insurance. I was warned that this would not necessarily work the first time around, that it was more of a building scenario...only one of the needles made me jump and that same needle was the only one that continued to sting throughout despite assurances that that pain (like a fire ant) would go away soon. Ironically it was in the location that theoretically would have done me the most good (supposedly somehow the area is attached to whatever it is that promotes the body's level or producing, I forget, oxytocin...which is supposed to help labor-wise).

The cat is still laying claim to the baby's crib (its in our bedroom). It took her a few weeks to notice it in the room. I've been chasing her out (and she's vocally and angrily protesting when I do). Sometime at 4 in the morning for a bathroom trip, I could just barely see her jump out of the crib and onto a nearby dresser. She must have thought I knew she was in there and was going to save herself the indignity of being lifted by the scruff of her neck. I don't know what I'm going to do when the baby comes. Or what she'll do.

I'm all over the place with posting - because I'm just exhausted/tired. While I received new-born

diapers for a babyshower, if I'm having a 9 1/2 lb child, they aren't going to do the job...last night I asked my daughter if she'd mind going to the store with me to stock up on kitchen supplies before the holiday weekend hit..I decided I better pick up some diaper wipes and infant tylenol kind of things...then looked at the diaper sizes while in the aisle. I picked up some size 1's as they start out at 8lbs. Until the first couple of weeks pass by I'm not going to rely as heavily on cloth diapers...and if I'm c-sectioned, I won't until after that healing process is over. Anyway, I opened up the package (not crazy that I can't find just plain diapers in Pampers without having Big Bird) and the things come pre-smelly ... like lotion or baby powder, or something baby that I only have the vaguest recall over. It was a pleasant surprise that took me back. And the diaper holder does look cuter with little diapers in it.

Subject: Re: 39 weeks, 1 day: watermelon baby
Posted by [Jamie](#) on Sat, 24 Dec 2011 17:08:30 GMT
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Just thought I'd tag this on here as well...

This week (in our 39th) he has finally broken through the "I've never messed with Mommy's ribs" stage. He isn't kicking on the inside, or stretching them in any way...rather he seems to have found his way around them, is that even possible? He's pushed his way from beneath and then I swear is propping himself right on top of the lower ribs. I'm able to gently push him back down (sometimes). I don't notice him doing it unless I am sitting. Otherwise, he does this unnoticed until I try to bend over and find I have this thing (leg? butt?) sticking out preventing me from lowering myself...so at least it doesn't hurt and he's gentle enough not to be abusive. I'm semi fortunate that he likes to kick/punch/stick out mainly in that no-bone land beneath the rib cage and above the hips...basically, thanks to the placenta I don't feel much more than rolling around except for my sides where movement is pretty obvious. (Wow...run on sentence, right?)

Too, this week and last I'm starting to feel (again, only on my sides) more definition of the baby. I still can't feel his head (which I'm told is low and in position) though the doctor's feel it and tell me about it...I also can't really tell yet what little nobs I am feeling. Knees, foot, elbows, what have you. Either I was fooling myself last time I was pregnant, or I've just lost the touch, because I swore I could tell feet from other bendy parts.

Subject: Re: 39 weeks, 1 day: watermelon baby
Posted by [Tamara E](#) on Sun, 25 Dec 2011 12:04:15 GMT
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Jamie, I was checking in early this morning just to see if you'd updated! (I've been preoccupied the past few days and hadn't check in on SheLaughed.)

I'll be interested to find out if your baby really IS 9 1/2 lbs. :) The last time that was suggested by the ultrasounds/doctors it turned out the baby was much smaller than anticipated. I'm not sure how reliable the weight estimates are on average.

Anyway...my smallest baby was 7 lbs. even (my last one) and most weighed closer to 8 lbs --however, I did have a 9 lb. 4 oz one and a 10 lb. one and those heavier babies still seemed very small and were able to fit into newborn diapers. (In those days, they didn't have as many different sizes though as they do now.) None of my babies stayed in newborn clothes long, however!

I'm continuing to pray with much anticipation of the exciting announcement anytime of your dear baby!

With love and hugs,
Tamara

Subject: Update!! Please update...
Posted by [Christal](#) on Tue, 24 Jan 2012 01:14:54 GMT
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How did it go? I know it's an effort to make time for messages after baby's born! just drop us a line and let us know about your beautiful new baby.

It was exactly a year ago yesterday I found out about our own beautiful blessing who is now 4 months!

Subject: Re: Update!! Please update...
Posted by [Tamara E](#) on Sun, 29 Jan 2012 14:44:33 GMT
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Christal wrote on Mon, 23 January 2012 20:14How did it go? I know it's an effort to make time for messages after baby's born! just drop us a line and let us know about your beautiful new baby. It was exactly a year ago yesterday I found out about our own beautiful blessing who is now 4 months!

I hope Jamie will have time to share her birth story soon --I know she's busy enjoying her precious baby boy!

It is so hard to believe it's been 4 months since your baby was born! Amazing!

With love and hugs,
Tamara

Subject: Re: 39 weeks, 1 day: watermelon baby
Posted by [Jamie](#) on Mon, 13 Feb 2012 04:12:25 GMT
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Oh, thank you for asking...

I'll tell you the truth, I've been very preoccupied not only with our new born but with some family crisis that picked up steam during my last trimester and was amped while I was still in the hospital with our baby (name: Jonah). Too, while the birth went very well (I did manage to get my VBAC, and there's a little story with that as well...God was working on my behalf, and it was very clear right at the end), unfortunately I actually had some difficulties right after the birth and the following day. Then, while I was recovering at home, I began to have other difficulties (female organs stuff)...my OB doesn't do a 2-week follow up, but I demanded one and then was more or less stood up and given the med-wife who wouldn't check me. My 6-week is actually at the 7-week check...and I'm still having some difficulties...I'm waiting to see the OB to have some of the events at the hospital better explained, and then check me out. Honestly, I expect to be told that I can never have children again (or that if I do that some serious physical consequences might happen as a result). That makes me sad, and already DH is saying Jonah is our last. I was optimistic that while he likely would have been our last that we talked early on (even before that pregnancy was confirmed) about having two. I've asked him about adoption as an option and he's not sure but isn't closing the door..he said the door is closed already to physical birth happening again.

After I digest what my OB says, I'm planning on writing the birth story. Stay tuned. :d

Subject: Re: 39 weeks, 1 day: watermelon baby
Posted by [Jamie](#) on Mon, 13 Feb 2012 04:16:55 GMT
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PS - I will say that I am amazed and did not realize at all how much change can happen in just a months time. Unless I see Jonah being held by another family member, he looks so huge to me...when he's with others he is so tiny. I put him in his little bouncy sling-chair today and marveled at how "tall" he was...at one week old his head lay at a certain "design" in the fabric, and now he's at a whole other one. Too...last week when I stretched his hand to explore a toy on the chair's mobile/arch, he could barely reach it...today he actually swung out in I would swear a deliberate manner and actually grasped it! Yesterday he gave his very first smile...so a lot of little bright spots have been happening. I'm a little sad it's already seeming quick. My daughter says she wishes she could "fast forward" time to see what he'll be like as a little boy, but would want to rewind him again back to this age, LOL. I'd like to hit the pause button, now and again. (and not just to get sleep, ha-ha)

Subject: Re: 39 weeks, 1 day: watermelon baby
Posted by [Tamara E](#) on Thu, 16 Feb 2012 21:25:14 GMT
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Jamie wrote on Sun, 12 February 2012 23:12

After I digest what my OB says, I'm planning on writing the birth story. Stay tuned. :d

I'm looking forward to this! :)

I'm also praying for your total recovery from the birth. As for future babies, I'll pray the Lord works it all out so that you and your dh will be of one mind --His mind in the matter!

With love and hugs,
Tamara

Subject: Re: 39 weeks, 1 day: watermelon baby

Posted by [Tamara E](#) on Thu, 16 Feb 2012 21:26:07 GMT
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Jamie wrote on Sun, 12 February 2012 23:16PS - I will say that I am amazed and did not realize at all how much change can happen in just a months time. Unless I see Jonah being held by another family member, he looks so huge to me...when he's with others he is so tiny. I put him in his little bouncy sling-chair today and marveled at how "tall" he was...at one week old his head lay at a certain "design" in the fabric, and now he's at a whole other one. Too...last week when I stretched his hand to explore a toy on the chair's mobile/arch, he could barely reach it...today he actually swung out in I would swear a deliberate manner and actually grasped it! Yesterday he gave his very first smile...so a lot of little bright spots have been happening. I'm a little sad it's already seeming quick. My daughter says she wishes she could "fast forward" time to see what he'll be like as a little boy, but would want to rewind him again back to this age, LOL. I'd like to hit the pause button, now and again. (and not just to get sleep, ha-ha)

Such precious, precious days...enjoy every moment of them! I'll pray for better sleep patterns, too. ;)
