anemia. Condition that occurs when the level of healthy red blood cells, which carry oxygen to all parts of the body, becomes too low.

Apgar test. Test that checks the baby’s chance of survival.

Brazelton scale. Test used to determine whether a baby has problems interacting with the environment, handling motor processes, controlling his or her physical state, or responding to stress.

colic. Condition in which a baby has intense abdominal pain and cries inconsolably.

intensive care nursery (ICN). Special nursery that can provide immediate intensive care just after birth for babies who need it.

jaundice. Liver condition that can make the skin, tissues, and body fluids look yellow.

neonatal intensive care units (NICUs). Heated, completely enclosed beds for newborns who need intensive care.

neonate. Medical term used to describe the baby from birth to one month of age.

neonatology. Branch of medicine concerned with the care, development, and diseases of newborns.

pediatrician. Doctor who cares for infants and children until adulthood (age 21 or 22) when physical growth is complete.

phenylketonuria (PKU). Disease that can cause mental retardation if left untreated by diet.

reflexes. Automatic, unlearned behaviors.

rooting reflex. Reflex that helps babies search for food by turning the head and moving the mouth in response to a touch on the cheeks or mouth.

sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS). Syndrome in which a baby dies without warning in his or her sleep.

well-baby checkup. Routine medical visit in which the doctor examines a baby for signs of good health and proper growth.