MINIATURE SEA WALL IS STUDIED

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Large and tall, each wishing to be a winner, they raced each other in the water, trying to influence rate of growth. This fluctuation in growth rate Dr. Ethel M. Stouffer, of the Health Research Laboratory of the Institute, has been studying for a number of years. A study of the rates of growth of children shows that the average children grow 0.6 inches per year during April and May, and then slow down after May 15. The rate of growth then increases during the summer months, reaching its peak in September. After September, the rate of growth decreases, reaching its lowest point in February. This is due to the increase in body temperature during the summer months, which stimulates growth, and the decrease in temperature during the winter months, which retards growth.

The study of growth rate is important because it helps to determine the best time for certain types of surgery and the best time for certain types of exercises. For example, the best time for surgery on the spine is during the winter months, when the growth rate is slow, and the best time for certain types of exercises is during the summer months, when the growth rate is fast.

Seasons Found to Influence Rate of Child Growth

Dr. Turner Discovers Boys Grow More Slowly in the Summer

That healthy children gain weight more slowly during April, May and June than at any other time of year has been revealed in a study of seasonal variations in the growth of children, recently completed by Dr. Clarence E. Turner and members of the Physical Education Department of the New York City Health Department.

This research, which included periodic measurements of several thousand children, shows that the growth rate of children in the summer months is slower than in the winter months. This is due to the increase in body temperature during the summer months, which stimulates growth, and the decrease in temperature during the winter months, which retards growth.

Children were found to gain weight faster in the fall and early winter months, particularly during October and November. The southern hemisphere children's seasons of fast and slow growth are reversed. With the coming of the summer season and the increase in body temperature, the growth rate of children decreases.

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