

Review of: "Is gastrulation the most important time in your life?"

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This delightful review raises thought-provoking question/s on one of the most fundamental developmental processes, the Gastrula. It is well recognised that the process of folding and or splitting of what starts as a single layer of cells to form the germ layers is a shared theme of this developmental stage across animal taxa. The diversity in 'folding/layering patterns' in part may reflect the physical constraints that the developing embryo may face in the respective taxa, resulting in diverse patterns. The recent advances allow us to dwell deep into the cell lineages of these germ layers, and diverse patterns in more detail than ever before. As is well articulated by the author, the emerging pieces of evidence are enriching our understanding of the complexities of this fundamental process and the possible need for redefining or refining 'gastrulation'.

Below are a couple of minor queries/inconsistencies that the Author may consider in revising the text.

1. Page 2 line 3. 'de-inflated' do you mean 'deflated'?
2. Recent studies have shown the existence of pluripotent cells capable of differentiating into neural tube and paraxial mesoderm located at the node in chickens, and the node-streak border in mouse (Guillot et al. 2021; Solovieva et al. 2022a).... Are the references restricted to chickens alone? If so, the sentence may be revised for accuracy.
3. Page 5 line 3. 'give place to' do you mean 'give rise to'?