

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

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This review is a good general overview of the history of gastrulation, comparative developmental biology and a summary of some new insights into this process. The figures are well done.

Some suggestions:

1. "*closely related taxa can display different gastrulation modes, and vice versa*)." Provide examples to orient the reader.
2. This review article is used as a frequent citation: Levit 2022; What is the current article adding beyond this?
3. What does "zippering" mean? A graphic would help
4. what is the "they" in this sentence "A recent study has shown they can also give place to the notochord in zebrafish (Lange et al. 2023)"?
5. using "(see previous paragraphs)," is not as useful as actually defining what was referred to before.