

# Case Studies

## NOVA Activity **Life's Greatest Miracle**

You are an adoption counselor for high-risk babies. You will be given one of the following four case studies to review. Your job is to review your case, perform any additional research you think is necessary, and then write a short summary citing your concerns for each of these newborns.

**Adam**—Adam's mother is 35 years old. She drank heavily throughout the first seven weeks of her pregnancy, not knowing that she was pregnant. When she discovered that she was pregnant, she stopped drinking entirely for three weeks, then slowly resumed. During the last two trimesters, she alternated between binge drinking and periods of sobriety.

**Barbie**—Barbie's mother is 20 years old. She has a history of heavy drinking, and was still drinking heavily during the first three weeks of pregnancy. When she realized she was pregnant, she entered a residential treatment program and joined AA. She has not had a drink since that time.

**Carlos**—Carlos's mother is 19 years old. Throughout her pregnancy, she drank on weekends. While she got drunk once or twice, she usually just drank a six-pack of beer over the course of the weekend.

**Danielle**—Danielle's mother is 25 years old. She insists she does not have a drinking problem. She has two or three drinks each evening. She maintained this pattern throughout her pregnancy.