The female deer gives birth to a live baby deer called a **fawn**. The fawn is able to walk right after it is born. It will start getting milk from its mother but will start eating other food in a matter of days. At the end of six weeks, the fawn is eating on its own. The white spots of the fawn help to hide it from predators.

The female deer, called the **doe**, is ready to have a fawn when she is about 2 years old. She carries the fawn for 6 months, and then gives birth to the fawn around May or June.

Males, called **bucks**, leave their mother when they are around 1 year old. They will begin to grow antlers when they are two years old. Male deer travel alone.

The fawn will stay with its mother for two years if it is a female, and one year if it is a male. It loses its spots before winter of its first year. It is a plant eater and depends on plants. At this stage the deer are called **yearlings**.