

What is reproduction?

Reproduction is one of the seven life processes.

All living things reproduce.

Humans use sexual reproduction to produce their young.

In order to do this, the two parents (male and female) have different reproductive systems and organs that produce different sex cells.



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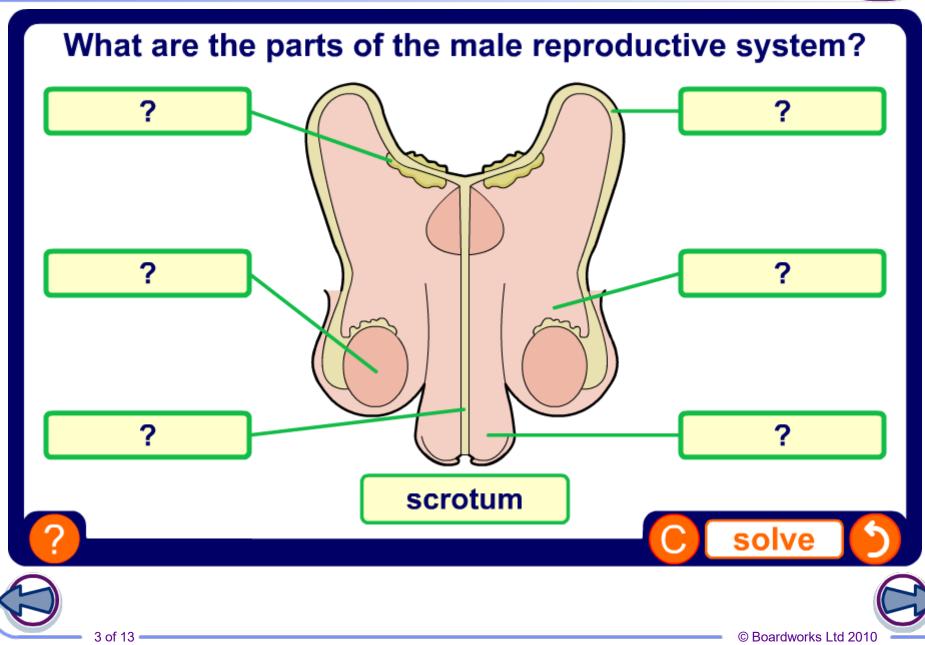






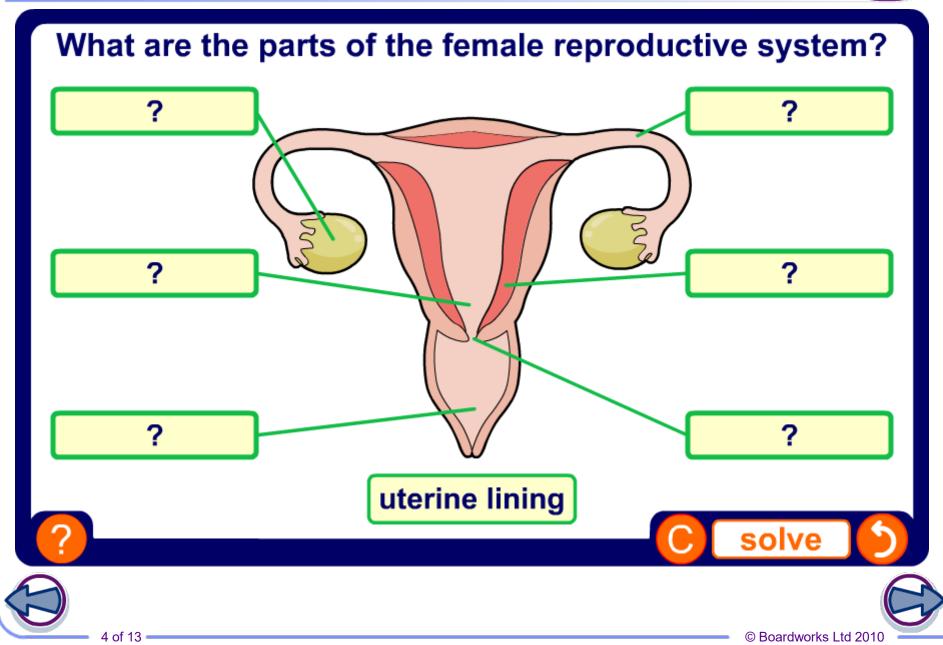
The male reproductive system





The female reproductive system





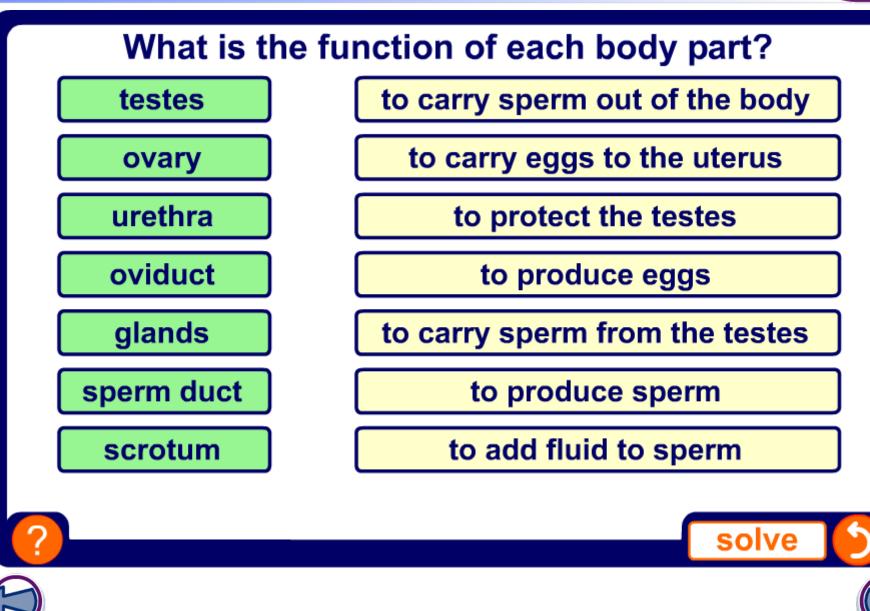


Are these parts of the human reproductive system male or female?

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Roles of the reproductive system





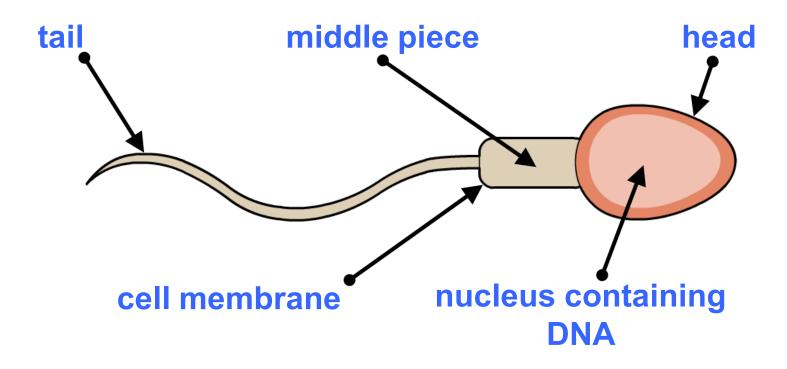
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Sex cells – sperm



In males, the sex cells are called **sperm**.



Sperm are produced in sex organs called testes.

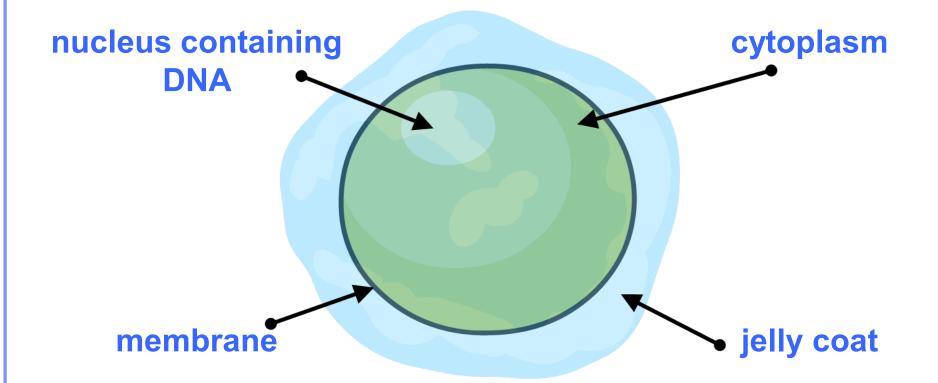








In females, the sex cells are called eggs.



Eggs are produced in sex organs called ovaries.

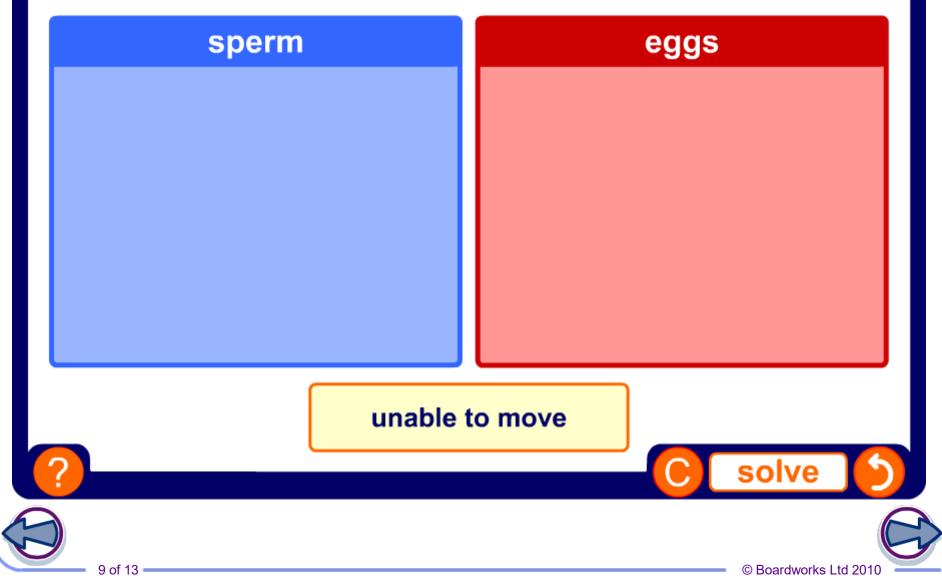




Sperm or egg?



Which adaptations do sperm and eggs cells have?





For a woman to become pregnant, fertilization must occur. **Fertilization** is the fusing of an egg and a sperm cell. In this process the sperm's nucleus will join with the egg's nucleus.



Females produce an egg approximately every 28 days. This is called **ovulation**.

Males continually produce sperm in the testes.

How do these cells come into close contact with each other?





Sexual intercourse

During **sexual intercourse** the man inserts his penis into the woman's vagina.

Millions of sperm cells are ejaculated into the top of the vagina.

They enter the uterus through the cervix, where the sperm cells may meet an egg.

Now fertilization can occur.









Fertilization and implantation



Fertilization and implantation

During fertilization the male and female sex cells fuse.

Click "**play**" to find out more about the process.

