
UNIT: Prenatal Development**LESSON:** Male and Female Reproduction**TIME:** 1 day

COMPETENCIES:

1. Identify the female reproductive organs and the functions of each. (Options 1, 2, 5, and 6)
2. Identify the male reproductive organs and the functions of each. (Options 1, 2, 5, and 6)
3. Describe the process of conception and complications that may arise. (Options 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6)

OVERVIEW/SUMMARY: The male and female reproductive systems provide a means of creating a new human body. Specific organs are responsible for the production of sex cells; others transport and nourish the cells or provide a place for the development of the new body.

NOTE TO TEACHER: Prepare the class for this lesson by explaining that you will be using correct anatomical terms. There is nothing silly or funny about this subject and students will be expected to act like adults, although when students feel uncomfortable, they tend to giggle and be silly. Help them feel free to ask any questions they wish during this lesson.

INTRODUCTION:

Have students draw stick pictures of their families. Share the pictures with the class. Ask the students, "In these pictures, how can you tell the boys from the girls?" (The girls usually have skirts, the hair styles are different, etc.) Pretend to sit down and close the lesson by saying, "Well, I can see that you know all you need to know about the difference between boys and girls, so we'll move on to our next unit of study."

Discuss with the class how many parents leave their child's understanding of sexual differences as a total mystery to the child. This causes confusion and frustration for the child. It is important for the students to know how their bodies work.

LESSON OPTIONS/SUPPLIES:

OPTION 1--Competencies 1, 2, and 3

STORIES: Have the students write a story in their own terms about the reproductive process. This is a great way for students to realize that they really do not know it all and need to listen to this lesson.

OPTION 2--Competencies 1 and 2

REPRODUCTIVE ORGANS: Using transparencies of the male and female anatomy, name and define the respective reproductive organs. Explain the function(s) of each. Give students a copy of the anatomy charts for them to complete while the discussion takes place. **TEACHER NOTE:** If you show the transparency on the chalkboard and write on the chalkboard rather than the transparency itself, the cleanup is much easier.)

OPTION 3--Competency 3

FERTILIZATION: Discuss teacher information, "Fertilization."

OPTION 4--Competency 3

COMPLICATIONS: Discuss some of the common complications related to conception, using the teacher information, "Complication Terms." You may wish to use the diagrams of males and females as this discussion takes place.

OPTION 5--Competencies 1, 2, 3

INTERACTIVE VIDEO: Show interactive NOVA, "Miracle of Life," to teach the male and female reproductive parts. Use the Video Explorations from the database for a class demonstration. Complete the "Comparing Male and Female Theme Tours." Show the "Male and Female Reproductive System" Video Exploration.

OPTION 6--Competencies 1, 2, and 3

MIRACLE OF LIFE: Refer to the Teacher's Guide included in the Miracle of Life Interactive NOVA. Show the applicable videos.

Male and Female Reproductive Systems
 Reproductive Hormones*
 Stages of Prenatal Development
 Responsible Sexuality (Optional)
 Puberty Myths

RESOURCES:

Interactive Nova
 Miracle of Life
 Scholastic Inc.
 2921 East McCarty St.
 Jefferson City, MO 65102
 Cost: \$395

Miracle of Life is an innovative way to teach delicate information about the beginning of life. This program combines recorded laser disk and computer database biological information. Images are then displayed on the television screen and computer monitor. Each image is controlled by the computer program, which provides immediate access to any image or bit of information. This tool can be used for lectures, demonstrations, guided inquiries, group learning, independent research, and multimedia reports.

Life Magazine, August, 1990, "The Ovum Period." Reprinted from April 30, *Life Educator Reprints*, 1965, Media International, Canaan, NH 03741

Parent's Magazine, March 1981, "The Embryonic Period."