FEMALE REPRODUCTIVE ORGANS

CERVIX: The opening in the uterus that leads to the vagina. It helps hold the baby in the womb. In order for birth to occur, the cervix must dilate.

CONCEPTION: Fertilization of the ovum.

ENDOMETRIUM: Lining of the uterus. Provides nourishment for the fertilized egg. If it is not used, it is sloughed off as menstruation.

FALLOPIAN TUBE: A passageway to transport the egg from the ovary to the uterus.

FERTILIZATION: When the sperm penetrates the ovum.

FIMBRAE: Fringe-like structures that hover close to the ovary and catch the ovum when it is released from the ovary.

GENITALS: Sex organs (male or female).

LABIA (outer): The protective, large outer and small inner folds of skin on the woman's external genital area.

OVUM (OVA): The female reproductive cell.

OVARIES: Two almond shaped organs that produce the female egg cell.

OVULATION: Issuing or releasing the ripened ovum from the follicle of the ovary.

PERINEUM: The area between the vaginal opening and the anus.

PREGNANT: Being with child.

UTERUS (WOMB): The organ that provides protection and nutrients and houses the unborn child. The place where the egg cell develops if it has been fertilized.

URETHRA, VAGINA, RECTUM: The three outside openings to the woman's body.
VAGINA: The passageway leading from the female's external genital organs to the uterus. It is a passageway for sperm, menstrual fluid, and the birth of a baby. During birth, it is referred to as the birth canal. It is a passageway from the uterus that leads to the outside of the lower part of the body.

VULVA (inner): The female external genitals that prevent entrance of foreign bodies into the body.