

Reproduction in Animals

- Reproduction is the biological process by which an individual organism gives birth to its young one. Animals can reproduce by two modes –

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| (i) Sexual reproduction, |
| (ii) Asexual Reproduction. |

- The mode of reproduction in which an individual can reproduce without involvement of another individual of that species is called asexual reproduction.
- Sexual reproduction is the type of reproduction in which two individual, called parents, are needed to reproduce the young ones.
- Human male reproductive system consists of a pair of testes (singular testis), two sperm ducts and a penis.
- Human female reproductive system consists of a pair of ovaries, oviducts (fallopian tubes) and the uterus.
- The testes produce male gametes called sperms and the ovary produces female gametes called ova.
- In sexual reproduction, male gamete fuses with female gamete. The fusion of ovum and sperm is called fertilization and the fertilized egg is called a zygote.
- The zygote divides repeatedly to give rise to an embryo which gets embedded in the wall of the uterus for further development.
- The stage of the embryo in which all the body parts are identifiable is called foetus.
- Fertilization that takes place inside the female body is called internal fertilization. This type of fertilization is observed in human beings and other animals such as hens, cows and dogs.
- Fertilization that takes place outside the female body is called external fertilization. This type of fertilization is observed in animals like frogs, fish, starfish, etc.
- Animals which give birth to their young ones are called viviparous animals. Human beings, cows and dogs are some examples or the viviparous animals.
- Animals which lay eggs are called oviparous animals. For example, hen, frog, lizard and butterfly etc.
- Some animals physically develop after birth or hatching, involving a conspicuous and relatively abrupt change in their body structure through cell growth and differentiation. This transformation of the larva into adult through drastic changes is called metamorphosis.
- Binary fission and budding are some of the methods of asexual reproduction, Hydra reproduces by budding and amoeba reproduces by binary fission.