



The Beginning of the Life Cycle

Conception and Implantation

1. What is the union of a male sperm cell and a female egg called? (There are two possible terms)
2. Where does conception usually occur?
3. What is the fertilized egg cell called?
4. Within a few days, the zygote attaches to the uterine wall. What is this process called?
5. What is the difference between an embryo and a fetus?

Embryonic Growth

6. As the embryo grows, its cells continue to divide, and during this time three important structures form.
 - a. What is the thin, fluid-filled membrane that surrounds and protects the developing embryo?
 - b. What is the ropelike structure that connects the embryo and the mother's Placenta?
 - c. What is the thick, blood-rich tissue that lines the walls of the uterus during pregnancy and nourishes the embryo.

Fetal Development

7. The time from conception to birth is usually about nine full months. These nine months are divided into three 3-month periods. What are the 3-month periods called?

Stages of Birth

8. Describe the three stages of labor.
 - a. Stage 1: Dilation
 - b. Stage 2: Passage Through the Birth Canal
 - c. Stage 3: Afterbirth