### Chapter 11

# **Reproduction and Embryonic Development**

# ASEXUAL AND SEXUAL REPRODUCTION

#### Asexual reproduction results in the generation of genetically identical offspring

- Asexual reproduction
  - One parent produces genetically identical offspring
  - Very rapid reproduction
  - Can proceed via
    - Budding
    - Fission
    - Fragmentation/
      regeneration



Asexual reproduction of an aggregating Sea anemone (*Anthopleura elegantissima*) by fission Sexual reproduction results in the generation of genetically unique offspring

- Some animals exhibit hermaphroditism
  - One individual with male and female reproductive systems
  - Easier to find a mate for animals less mobile or solitary

Hermaphroditic earthworms mating



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Sexual reproduction results in the generation of genetically unique offspring

- Sperm may be transferred to the female by
  - External fertilization
    - -Many fish and amphibian species
    - -Eggs and sperm are discharged near each other
  - Internal fertilization
    - -Some fish and amphibian species
    - -Nearly all terrestrial animals
    - -Sperm is deposited in or near the female reproductive tract



Frogs in an embrace that triggers the release of eggs and sperm

### **Human Reproduction**

**Reproductive anatomy of the human female** 

- Both sexes in humans have
  - A set of gonads where gametes (sperms & ova) are produced
  - Ducts for gamete transport
  - Structures for copulation

#### Human Female Reproductive anatomy

- Ovaries contain follicles that Nurture eggs and Produce sex hormones
- Oviducts convey eggs to the uterus where embryos develop
- The uterus opens into the vagina through the cervix
- The vagina
  - Receives the penis during sexual intercourse
  - Forms the birth canal



Front view of female reproductive anatomy (upper portion)

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#### **Human Male Reproductive anatomy**

- Testes (singular *testis*) produce Sperm and male hormones
- Epididymis stores sperm as they develop further
- Several glands contribute to semen
  - Seminal vesicles
  - Prostate
  - Bulbourethral

#### **Sperm production (Spermatogenesis)**

- Regulated by a negative feedback system of hormones
- Involves the hypothalamus, pituitary, and testes



Front view of male reproductive anatomy





#### **Spermatogenesis (The formation of sperm)**

#### Spermatogenesis

- Occurs in seminiferous tubules
- Primary spermatocytes
  - Formed by mitosis
  - Divide by meiosis I to produce secondary spermatocytes
- Secondary spermatocytes divide by meiosis II to produce spermatids
- Round spermatids differentiate into elongate sperm
- Mature sperm released into seminiferous tubule and stored in the epididymis







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#### **Oogenesis** (The formation of egg)

#### Oogenesis

- Begins before birth: diploid cells start meiosis and stop
- Each month about one primary oocyte resumes meiosis
- A secondary oocyte arrested at metaphase of meiosis II is ovulated
- Meiosis of the ovum is completed after fertilization



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#### **Oogenesis and the development of an ovarian follicle**



#### Hormones synchronize cyclic changes in the ovary and uterus

• Ovarian and menstrual cycles

**Occur about every 28 days** 

Hypothalamus signals the anterior pituitary to secrete follicle-stimulating hormone (FSH) and leuteinizing hormone (LH), which trigger

- Growth of a follicle

- Ovulation



Hormones synchronize cyclic changes in the ovary and uterus

- After ovulation, empty ovarian follicle becomes corpus luteum
- Corpus luteum secretes estrogen and progesterone hormones, which
  - 1) Stimulate the endometrium to thicken
  - 2) Prepare the uterus for implantation of the embryo
  - 3) Inhibit hypothalamus, reducing FSH and LH secretion

Hormones synchronize cyclic changes in the ovary and uterus

- If egg is fertilized
  - Embryo releases hormones that maintain the uterine lining
  - Menstruation does not occur
- If egg is not fertilized
  - Drop in LH shuts down corpus luteum and its hormones
  - Menstruation is triggered
  - Hypothalamus and pituitary stimulate development of a new follicle

#### **Embryonic Development**

- Embryonic development begins with fertilization

 Fertilization is the union of sperm and egg to form a diploid zygote

Resulted zygote triggers embryonic development



#### **Fertilization**

**Sperm adaptation** 

Sperm are adapted to reach and fertilize an egg

Streamlined shape moves more easily through fluids

Many mitochondria provide ATP for tail movements

Head contains a haploid nucleus Tipped with an acrosome containing penetrating enzymes



The structure of a human sperm cell

## Fertilization results in a zygote and triggers embryonic development

- Fertilization events
  - Sperm squeeze past follicle cells
  - Acrosomal enzymes pierce egg's coat
  - Sperm binds to vitelline layer
  - Sperm and egg plasma membranes fuse
  - Egg is stimulated to develop further
  - Egg and sperm nuclei fuse



#### **Embryonic development 1. Cleavage**

- Cleavage is a rapid series of cell divisions
- Cleavage produces a ball of cells from the zygote
  - More cells
  - Embryo does not get larger
  - Thus new cells are smaller in size
  - A ball of cells called blastula is formed at the end of cleavege







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#### 2. Gastrulation produces a three-layered embryo

- Gastrulation
- The blastula (ball of similar cells) resulted from cleavage go to gastrulation
  - Cells migrate
  - The basic body plan of three layers is established
    - Ectoderm outside becomes skin and nervous systems
    - Endoderm inside becomes digestive tract
    - Mesoderm in middle becomes muscle and bone



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