Lesson 1 The Male Reproductive System

Bellringer

How do the reproductive systems differ from other organ systems?
Objectives

- Identify the parts of the male reproductive system.
- Summarize the path of sperm through the male reproductive system.
- Describe seven problems of the male reproductive system.
- Describe four ways to prevent common reproductive problems.

Start Off Write

What are some problems of the male reproductive system?

The Male Body

- **The Testes** The testes, also called the testicles, are the organs that make sperm and the primary male sex hormone, testosterone.
- **Leaving the Testes** After leaving the testes, sperm mature in the epididymis. Then, the sperm are mixed with fluids and carried out of the man’s body through the penis.
The Path Traveled by Sperm

- **The Vas Deferens** When the sperm are fully mature, they move into the vas deferens. The vas deferens run from each epididymis, out of the scrotum.

- **The Urethra** The urethra is the tube that carries urine and sperm out of the body through the penis.

Sperm spend 70 days forming in the seminiferous tubules. They then spend several weeks maturing in the epididymis.
Male Reproductive Problems

- **Regular Checkups** Many boys and men do not recognize the importance of getting regular medical checkups. But medical checkups can help boys and men protect themselves from problems of the male reproductive system.

Caring for the Male Body

- **Protecting Your Health** Men and boys can protect themselves from reproductive health problems in the following ways:
  1. Bathe every day and keep skin clean and dry.
  2. Wear protective gear when playing sports.
  3. See a doctor regularly.
  4. Abstain from sex before marriage.
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Make a chart that compares reproduction in birds with reproduction in humans.

Objectives
• **Identify** the structures of the female reproductive system.
• **Summarize** the typical menstrual cycle.
• **Describe** six problems of the female reproductive system.
• **Describe** four ways to prevent common female reproductive problems.

Start Off Write
What is menstruation?
The Female Body

- **The Ovaries** The ova, or eggs, are stored in organs called ovaries. The ovaries also make most of the primary female sex hormone, estrogen.

- **Path from Ovaries to Uterus** An ovum travels from an ovary to the uterus through a fallopian tube.

Ovulation

- **What Is Ovulation?** Beginning at puberty, one of the ovaries releases a mature ovum every month in a process called ovulation.

- **FSH Hormone** An ovary contains ova at various stages of development. When a hormone called FSH is released each month, some of the developing ova are at the right stage to finish maturing.
Menstruation

- **What Is Menstruation?** The monthly breakdown and shedding of the endometrium is called menstruation.

- **The Menstrual Cycle** Ovulation and menstruation happen in a cycle that lasts about 28 days. This cycle is called the menstrual cycle.

The Menstrual Cycle

- **Days 1-5:** The lining of the uterus is shed. Blood and tissue leave the body through the vagina.
- **Days 1-13:** An ovum matures in the ovary.
- **Day 14:** Ovulation—an ovum is released from the ovary.
- **Days 15-28:** The ovum travels down the fallopian tube to the uterus. If the ovum is not fertilized, the cycle will begin again at Day 1.

Common Reproductive Problems

- **Puberty and Stress** Most healthy young women do not have any significant problems with their reproductive system. But the changes in the female reproductive system at puberty can cause young women a great deal of stress.
Caring for the Female Body

- **Protect Your Health** Women and girls can protect themselves from reproductive health problems in the following ways:
  1. Bathe every day.
  2. See a doctor regularly.
  3. Abstain from sex before marriage.
  4. Maintain good hygiene during menstrual periods.