

## Reproduction and Pregnancy

Upper Key stage 2

It is recommended that these activities are delivered to children in year 5 or above. However, in some circumstances it may be appropriate to use some of the activities for younger children, for example in response to children's questions.

This topic is part of the National Curriculum for science and must therefore be delivered. Parents and carers do not have the right to withdraw their child from this aspect of RSHE.

Please see Teacher's Notes for further supporting information on this topic.

Children should be taught that sex before the age of 16 is illegal, and that it should always be a consensual part of a respectful relationship. This may be a sensitive topic for children who have been victims of sexual abuse; teachers should remind the class that they can talk to a supportive adult outside of the lesson if they are worried or frightened. It is good practice to liaise with the school safeguarding lead before delivering these sessions.

The sessions focus on heterosexual relationships as the learning intention is around reproduction. However, teachers should also be prepared to answer questions on gay or lesbian relationships, explaining that whilst these couples can and do have caring and respectful sex, conception can only take place when a male sperm meets a female egg.

### **Learning Intention:**

- To be aware of the facts of the human life cycle, including sexual intercourse.

### **Learning Outcome:**

- To be able to explain how conception occurs in humans.
- To understand that many people use contraception to control when they have children and how many they have.
- To be aware of the stages of development of a baby in the uterus.
- To be able to discuss some of the responsibilities of parenthood.

### **Resources:**

- "Mummy Laid an Egg" by Babette Cole
- Paper, pens, crayons
- Question box
- Pictures illustrating the development of the embryo and foetus throughout pregnancy (as shown in Appendix 2).

**Teacher Introduction:**

We have been learning about how our bodies change when we go through that part of our lives called “puberty.” In this lesson we are going to learn about why we go through puberty and about how babies are made. We will also be thinking about how babies grow before they are born and how they are born.

We need to remember our working agreement in this lesson. If you have any questions you don’t want to ask out loud, don’t forget that you can write them down and put them in the question box.

**Activity 1:**

Read “Mummy Laid an Egg” by Babette Cole.

In groups, ask the children to discuss, using proper terminology, how conception occurs in humans. Ask each group to feed back what they think, so you can clarify any misunderstandings. Ensure that all children are clear about how conception takes place.

Scribe a step-by-step list which can be put on the wall to remind the children as you work through the topic.

Explain that when a man puts his penis inside a woman’s vagina we say they are having “sexual intercourse” or “sex.” This is called “straight” sex.

Sex can also mean the way two people of the same sex can touch each other in their private places to show how much they care about each other. This may be called “gay” or “lesbian” sex.

However, remind the children that reproduction requires a male and female cell (sperm and egg).

Emphasise that it is illegal to have straight or gay sex before the age of 16, and that sex is something which should always be a consensual part of a respectful relationship.

**Also useful for: UE, CF, RR, NCS**