



Year 6 Non-Statutory Sex Education

Parent curriculum overview

Purpose of this document

This overview explains the Year 6 content that our school identifies as non-statutory sex education. It is written in our own words to give parents a clear picture of the knowledge and learning activities involved, rather than reproducing published scheme materials.

In primary schools, Relationships Education and Health Education are statutory, while schools may choose to provide additional sex education. Parents may request withdrawal from primary sex education that goes beyond National Curriculum science. Content that forms part of the National Curriculum for science is not subject to withdrawal.

The Year 6 lesson covered by this overview is:

- What are different ways babies are conceived and born?

Important distinction This lesson builds on earlier learning about puberty, the human life cycle and reproduction. The teaching about human conception, sexual intercourse and birth described below is the non-statutory sex education element.



Lesson 1

Lesson question	What are different ways babies are conceived and born?
Learning objective	To know about different ways babies are conceived and born, including sexual reproduction and sexual intercourse.

WHAT PUPILS WILL LEARN

- Use appropriate scientific language for male and female internal and external sexual parts, building on previous puberty learning.
- Understand that puberty prepares the body for adult reproduction.
- Understand that a baby can be conceived through sexual reproduction, when sperm and egg meet and fertilisation takes place.
- Understand, in age-appropriate scientific terms, the role of sexual intercourse in conception.
- Describe the broad sequence from fertilisation and early cell development through pregnancy and birth.
- Recognise that babies may be born vaginally or by Caesarean section, and that conception and birth experiences differ between families.

SUGGESTED LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- Establish agreed, scientific vocabulary for discussing sexual and reproductive body parts, including how to distinguish appropriate scientific terms from informal or inappropriate language.
- Revisit prior learning about puberty and why bodies change as children mature, linking this to adult reproduction.
- Elicit pupils' existing ideas about how babies are made and use these to identify misconceptions and vocabulary that need clarification.
- Use an age-appropriate story, diagram, prepared explanation or carefully selected educational resource to introduce conception and sexual intercourse accurately and sensitively.
- Sequence the main stages involved in conception: sperm entering the female reproductive system, sperm travelling towards an egg, fertilisation, and the beginning of cell division and development.
- Explore how the developing group of cells grows into a foetus during pregnancy, using suitable diagrams, images or educational video.
- Discuss different ways babies may be born, including vaginal birth and Caesarean section, while avoiding discussion of named individuals or personal family experiences unless volunteered appropriately.
- Invite anonymous questions about conception and birth, answering them in line with the school's Relationships and Sex Education approach and the age of the pupils.
- Use carefully framed statements or an agree/disagree activity to check misconceptions about sexual intercourse, conception, pregnancy and birth.
- Conclude by asking pupils to reflect on something new or significant they have learned about conception and birth.

KEY VOCABULARY

**sexual reproduction conceive conception sexual intercourse fertilisation sperm egg puberty
pregnancy foetus vaginal birth Caesarean section**



Vocabulary across this part of the curriculum

The vocabulary below combines the words already identified in the school's curriculum with additional scientific terms that are directly relevant to this Year 6 lesson.

Already identified	Useful additional vocabulary
Sexual Reproduction	Conception
Love	Sexual intercourse
Conceive	Fertilisation
Puberty	Sperm
Marriage	Egg
Civil Partnerships	Pregnancy
Families	Foetus
Lifecycle	Vaginal birth
Human lifecycle	Caesarean section
Fostering	Reproductive / sexual parts

Vocabulary note: For this particular lesson, the most important additional terms are conception, sexual intercourse, fertilisation, pregnancy, foetus, vaginal birth and Caesarean section. The words love, marriage, civil partnerships, families and fostering relate more broadly to the surrounding RSHE curriculum rather than being the central scientific vocabulary of this lesson.

For parents

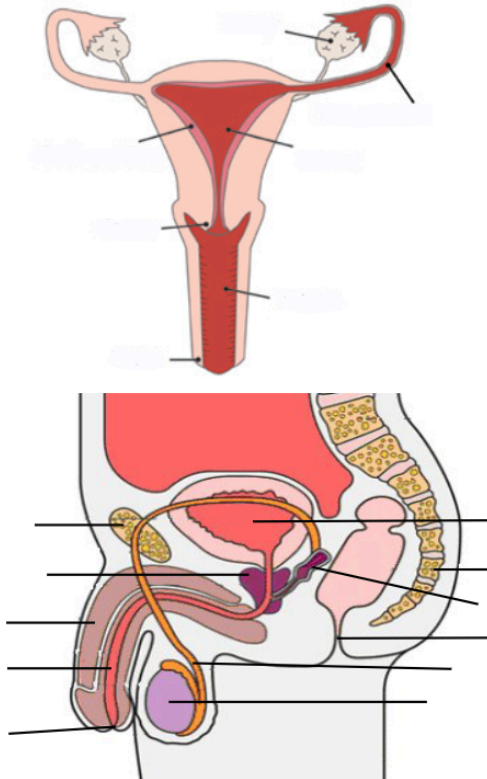
Parents who would like to discuss the content, see how it is taught, or request withdrawal from the non-statutory sex education element should contact the school. Any pupil withdrawn will be provided with appropriate alternative education during the relevant lesson.



Example Resources



Resource 1 - Male and Female Internal Organs



Resource 2 - How a baby is made - Script

When two people are attracted to each other, one way they might show their attraction, trust and love for each other is to have sex. Sex is about being very close and intimate with another person. Some people call having sex 'making love' because it is a very intimate way to show your love for someone.

Sometimes a male and female who feel this attraction, love and trust for each other choose to have a baby together. To make a baby they have sexual intercourse or sex. They get very close to each other and cuddle and kiss. The cuddling and kissing makes their bodies ready to have sex. The female's vagina becomes slippery and the male's penis becomes stiff. If they have agreed that they want to have sex, the man slides his penis into the woman's vagina and they move backwards and forwards together.

After a while, sperm comes out of the man's penis in a liquid called semen. This is called 'ejaculation'. When a man ejaculates, millions of tiny sperm are released. The sperm travel into the woman's vagina.

The sperm travel through the cervix and into the uterus. Sperm have long wiggly tails and they swim, pushing themselves along with their tails.

The sperm travel into the Fallopian tubes. It takes them several hours to get all the way from the vagina to the Fallopian tubes. Some sperm are not as strong or healthy as the others, so only about 200 sperm get as far as the Fallopian tube.

For a baby to start, an egg needs to be ready in the Fallopian tube. The woman's ovaries usually release one egg every 28 days or so. The egg is just the size of a full stop. It is the biggest cell in a human body.

If there is an egg ready in one of the Fallopian tubes, one sperm breaks through the outer skin of the egg. As it joins the egg, its tail falls off. Only the fastest, strongest sperm can get into the egg, because as soon as it has entered the egg, the egg creates a shield, so usually, no more sperm enter the egg.

The sperm and the egg fuse together and make a new cell that is a mixture of the male and the female. This is called fertilization.

The new cell divides and grows to make a little bundle of cells which travels down the Fallopian tube to the uterus. It takes between 5 and 7 days to get to the uterus. By the time it gets to the uterus, the one cell has become a little ball of 100 cells.

The little ball of cells is now called a zygote and it attaches itself to the endometrium. The ball of cells keeps dividing and growing. A baby is now developing.

Resource 3 - How a baby is made - Cards

When a man and a woman decide to have a baby, they have sexual intercourse (called sex for short). This is how it happens.

A	The sperm travel into the Fallopian tubes.	F	The sperm travel into the woman's vagina.
B	After a while, sperm comes out of the man's penis in a liquid called semen.	G	The man slides his penis into the woman's vagina.
C	The ball of cells keeps dividing and growing. A baby is now developing.	H	The new cell divides and grows to make a little bundle of cells which travels down the Fallopian tube to the uterus.
D	The sperm travel through the cervix and into the uterus.	I	The little ball of cells attaches itself to the endometrium.
E	If there is an egg ready in one of the fallopian tubes, one sperm breaks through the outer skin of the egg.	J	The sperm and the egg fuse together and make a new cell that is a mixture of the mother and the father.

Choose the correct order for the statements to show how a baby is made.

1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th