YouTube - Reproductive system for Middle Schoolers

* The testes are responsible for **meiosis**. In males, that process produces sperm cells.
* The **epididymis** is responsible for storing the sperm cells. If the sperm cells are not used, they die and reabsorbed by the body.
* Because the sperm cells can only develop at a certain temperature, the **scrotum** is responsible for adjusting that temperature by moving the testes closer or farther from the body’s heat.
* The **vas deterens** transports sperm cells to the seminal vesicles.
* The **seminal vesicles** supply the sperm cells with fluid and nourishment. This is called **semen**.
* The **urethra** has two functions. A branch of it comes from the bladder and eliminates urine. During intercourse and/or masturbation, the **urethra** carries the sperm and semen through and out of the penis.
* The **penis** delivers the sperm and semen to the female’s reproductive system.
* The **ovaries**, like the testes, are the location of the female **meiosis**. This process produces a specific number of egg cells. Unlike males, females have a limited number of these reproductive cells.
* The egg travels from the ovaries through the fallopian tubes and eventually to the uterus. It is in the fallopian tubes that the egg is fertilized. Generally, the egg is released into the tube from the left, then right, then left each month.
* Eventually, the fertilized egg will lodge in the lining of the uterus and develop into a baby (or babies) – depending on the number of eggs or mitotic divisions.
* The **cervix** is the opening to the uterus. This closes when a baby is developing in the uterus.
* The **birth canal**; also called **vagina**, is the path a baby takes when being born.
* Sperm travels through the vagina in search of the egg… Then through the cervix… Then sperm enters the uterus (THE WOMB) … Then sperm travels through the fallopian tube… At last, the egg (ovum) has been released from the ovary and is waiting for fertilization… Now each sperm cell that reaches the egg will vigorously try to penetrate the egg wall (membrane)… Only one sperm cell will be allowed to enter the egg… It will now travel from the fallopian tube to the uterus (the womb) … Where it will reside for the development of the baby.
* How does a **miscarriage** happen? The most common cause of pregnancy loss is a problem with the chromosomes that would make it impossible for the fetus to develop normally. Other factors that could contribute to a **miscarriage** include abnormal hormone levels in the mother, such as thyroid hormone. uncontrolled diabetes.
* An **abortion** is a procedure to end a pregnancy. It uses medicine or surgery to remove the embryo or fetus and placenta from the uterus. The procedure is done by a licensed health care professional. The decision to end a pregnancy is very personal.