

Learning Objectives

- To understand the biology of conception.
- I understand the menstrual cycle.
- I understand how a baby is conceived.

Before the lesson

Watch

- Pupil video: Menstruation – there are two versions of this video; one voiced by a woman and the other voiced by a man.
- Pupil video: Conception – there are two versions of this video; one voiced by a woman and the other voiced by a man.

Have ready

- Presentation: Sequencing (see Main event).

Print

- Activity: Sequencing (see Classroom resources) – one per pair of pupils – there are two sets of sequencing cards on a page.
- Activity: Sequencing with images (see Classroom resources) – for any pupils needing additional support.

Attention grabber

1. Recap with the class the ground rules that were created at the beginning of the year/topic.
2. Answer any questions from the Question box that the children may have asked since the previous lessons, focusing on those questions that will not be covered during this lesson.
3. Show the *Pupil video: Menstruation* (which the children watched in Year 5) to remind the children of what happens during the menstrual cycle. There are two versions, one with a woman's voiceover and one with a man's voiceover. Choose whichever version you feel most appropriate for your class.

Show on your interactive whiteboard

Explain that menstruation is the way that a woman's body prepares for having a baby and that the children are now going to learn more about how a baby is made.

Key question

- What happens during the menstrual cycle?

Main event

NB: Parents have the right to withdraw their child from the rest of this lesson.

1. Explain that the children are going to learn how a baby is conceived. Put this into context by saying that for most couples, this is a big decision and something they will have thought about for a long time. Your school policy and ethos may mean you need to stress the importance of marriage.

2. Show the *Pupil video: Conception*. There are two versions, one with a woman's voiceover and one with a man's voiceover. Choose whichever you feel is the most appropriate for your class.

Show on your interactive whiteboard

3. Take any questions that the children have.

4. Explain to children that the age at which you can legally have intercourse in this country is 16 and this law is designed to protect us. Explain that 16 is sometimes called the age of consent. Ask children if they know what consent means.

Discuss the children's answers and make sure they understand that it is giving permission, that a person needs to know what they are giving permission for and that someone can withdraw consent i.e. change their mind.

Consent does not just apply to intercourse but to other situations such as going on a school trip or lending an item to someone.

Bring the conversation back to intercourse and emphasise that the children should never feel pressured or pressurise anyone else into having intercourse or doing anything else they don't want to. Consent should be freely given.

5. Rewatch the video so children can further consolidate their understanding.

6. Arrange the children in pairs and give each pair a copy of the *Activity: Sequencing* and display slide 2 of the *Presentation: Sequencing*.

Show on your interactive whiteboard

7. Ask the children to write the statements in the correct order and record which image from the presentation goes with each statement.

Pupils needing extra support can use the *Activity: Sequencing with images*, which has images as well and they can stick the text and images into the correct order.

When the children have completed the activity, share slide 3 of the presentation and they can self-mark their work.

Key question

- How is a baby made?

1. Remind children that intercourse is something adults do and tell them that the legal age they can have intercourse is 16 and that they should never feel pressured or pressurise anyone else into having intercourse or doing anything else they don't want to. Remind the children what consent means.

Allow time for questions to be answered now or to be put into the Question box.

Contraception

2. Children may ask about contraception or ask if there are ways to not get pregnant if someone has intercourse. How you respond should be part of your school policy but it is recommended to give simple and concise answers. The key information children need at this stage is that:

- Contraception can prevent a pregnancy but it is never 100% effective.
- A condom can be worn over the penis to stop the sperm entering the female.
- The Pill can be taken by the woman, which stops the eggs being released each month.

Key question

- At what age can people legally have intercourse?

Glossary

- sperm
- erection
- conception
- relationship
- egg
- fertilise
- sexual intercourse

Assessing pupils' understanding and progress

Pupils with secure understanding indicated by: Understanding of the menstrual cycle and that a male and a female are needed to conceive a baby.
Pupils working at greater depth indicated by: Understanding how a baby is conceived and explaining the stages independently and in the correct order.

Differentiation

Pupils needing extra support: May need further consolidation around the process of conception and can use *Activity: Sequencing with images* for the activity.
Pupils working at greater depth: Should be challenged to write their own sequence of conception without the aid of *Activity: Sequencing*.