

Vocabulary

Vocabulary

Study the vocabulary words and definitions below.

Female

cervix the neck of the uterus; connects the uterus and vagina

endometriosis abnormal growth of the lining of the uterus

estrogen a female sex hormone

Fallopian tubes a pair of tubes through which a mature egg released from the ovaries travels to the uterus, or womb

mammogram an X-ray photograph of the breast used to detect cancer

ovaries the two reproductive glands in females that produce egg cells and female hormones

ovulation the release of a mature egg cell from an ovary

Pap test a test used to check for cervical or uterine cancer

premenstrual syndrome (PMS) .. a variety of symptoms that some females experience before their menstrual periods, including nervous tension, anxiety, irritability, bloating, depression, mood swings, and fatigue

Vocabulary

- trichomoniasis** a vaginal infection; signs include an odorous discharge, genital itching, and burning sensation during urination
- uterus** a hollow, muscular, pear-shaped organ in females where a fertilized egg will grow; also called a *womb*
- vagina** a muscular, very elastic tube in females that serves as a passageway for childbirth, semen, and menstrual flow; also called the *birth canal*
- vaginitis** common vaginal infections in females that can be caused by a fungus, bacteria, or protozoa
- yeast infection** a vaginal infection; signs include a thick, white discharge and genital itching

Vocabulary

Male

- ejaculate** to release suddenly—specifically seminal fluid during orgasm
- epididymis** a large coiled tube in males that is located at the outer surface of each testicles; stores sperm after they are produced
- penis** the external organ of the male reproductive system
- prostate gland** the gland in males that secretes a fluid that mixes with sperm to form semen
- scrotum** the external sac in males that holds the testicles
- semen** the whitish mixture of sperm and fluids from the male reproductive glands; also called *seminal fluid*
- sperm** the male reproductive cell; fertilizes a female egg cell
- testicles** two small reproductive glands in males that produce sperm and the male hormone testosterone; also called *testes*
- testosterone** the male sex hormone
- vas deferens** a long tube in males that connects the epididymis to the urethra

Vocabulary

Female and Male

- asexual** having no gender; formed without sexual action
- birth control** methods of avoiding pregnancy
- cancer** a disease that causes cells in the body to grow abnormally
- conception** union of egg cell and sperm; *fertilization*
- condom** covering worn over the penis or in the vagina during sexual intercourse to trap sperm; a method of birth control and disease prevention
- contraception** birth control
- contraceptives** devices or methods for avoiding pregnancy and disease
- discharge** a substance that has been released from the body—especially from the vagina or penis
- embryo** an organism in the early stages of development
- family planning** deciding if and when to have children
- fertilization** the union of an egg cell from the female and a sperm cell from the male
- fetus** the developing individual after two months in the uterus

Vocabulary

- hernia** a pushing out of a part of the body through a weakened area in the muscle; also called a *rupture*
- prenatal care** care for a fetus before it is born
- reproductive system** the body systems in the male and female that are responsible for the production of offspring
- sexual abstinence** not having sexual contact; a method of birth control and disease protection
- sexual intercourse** genital contact between individuals; sexual contact with vagina, penis, anus, or mouth
- sterility** inability to reproduce
- urethra** a narrow tube leading from the bladder through which urine passes out of the body; in the male, it also connects with the vas deferens
- virgin** a person who has never had sexual intercourse