

Dear Parent of a TCCA Biology student,

Animal and Human reproduction is part of the biology course curriculum and Florida Standards. Below is a general explanation of the principles that will be taught.

In the classroom, the biology instructor will teach animal reproduction as well as identify the reproductive organs of humans, as science and emanating from the science curriculum. Within the unit, behaviors and adaptations of animals and humans, concerning reproduction, response to reproduction, and offspring development, are compared and contrasted. The reproductive unit is a part of a whole body unit, where several biological systems will be learned. Though we will not encourage students to discuss these matters amongst themselves, we will emphasize the need for courtesy whenever one encounters topics related to reproduction and reproductive organs in the world. In line with our first principle, our teaching of reproduction will not be a sex education course. Instead, we hope to provide a solid set of lessons in the science of reproduction that is appropriate to the scholar's age; we leave it to the parents to provide the moral instruction that may accompany these lessons and to augment our teaching as they see fit.

Below you will find an outline of what will be addressed in the unit.

- A. Female reproductive system and anatomy
- B. Male reproductive system and anatomy
- C. Reproduction of Animals
  - a. fertilization - sperm cell and egg cell join in the fallopian tube
    - i. zygote - the fertilized egg travels down the fallopian tube and to the uterus
    - ii. the zygote implants itself in the wall of the uterus
  - b. growth and development
    - i. embryo (up to 8 weeks)
    - ii. fetus (up to 40 weeks)
    - iii. newborn
- D. Endocrine system
- E. Hormone action

Lessons should be taught this week and next week. Should you have any questions, feel free to contact myself or your child's biology teacher.

Mrs. Tara Hazel  
Math/Science Coach