Year 8 Science: Sexual and asexual reproduction, and how a mammal develops

Name: _____ Date: _____

Try these without your notes first, then check the answer key.

Practice

1. A flax bush (harakeke) is divided and replanted as five new plants. Is this sexual or asexual reproduction?

2. Why are siblings from the same two parents usually different from each other?

3. What is made at fertilisation?

4. Give the stage that follows the embryo in a mammal.

5. Give one advantage of asexual reproduction.

Fix the mistake

6. Correct this statement: "Plants only reproduce asexually."

7. Correct this statement: "Offspring of sexual reproduction are half copies of each parent, so they look exactly like a blend."

8. Correct this statement: "The zygote, embryo and foetus are three different babies."

9. Correct this statement: "A zygote is a sperm."

Answer key (for parents and tutors)

1. A flax bush (harakeke) is divided and replanted as five new plants. Is this sexual or asexual reproduction?
   Asexual: there is one parent and the new plants are identical to it.
2. Why are siblings from the same two parents usually different from each other?
   Each gets a different mix of genes from the two parents.
3. What is made at fertilisation?
   A zygote, a single new cell from a sperm and an egg joining.
4. Give the stage that follows the embryo in a mammal.
   The foetus.
5. Give one advantage of asexual reproduction.
   It is fast and needs no partner, so a good habitat can be filled quickly.
6. Correct this statement: "Plants only reproduce asexually."
   Flowering plants reproduce sexually through their flowers, and many can also reproduce asexually.
7. Correct this statement: "Offspring of sexual reproduction are half copies of each parent, so they look exactly like a blend."
   Each offspring gets a different mix of the parents' genes, which is why siblings differ.
8. Correct this statement: "The zygote, embryo and foetus are three different babies."
   They are three stages of the same developing individual, named by how far it has developed.
9. Correct this statement: "A zygote is a sperm."
   A zygote is the single new cell made when a sperm and an egg join at fertilisation.