



The egg and sperm cells each have half of the parent plant's DNA. When the two cells join, the two halves come together. They make a cell with a whole set of DNA.

The new cell divides again and again, growing all the time. In time, it becomes a seed with a plant inside. Every cell in this new plant will have the same set of DNA inside.

A new plant gets half of its DNA from each parent. It will look much like its parents, but there might be differences. If a plant with red flowers is pollinated by a plant with white flowers, a plant with pink flowers could follow.

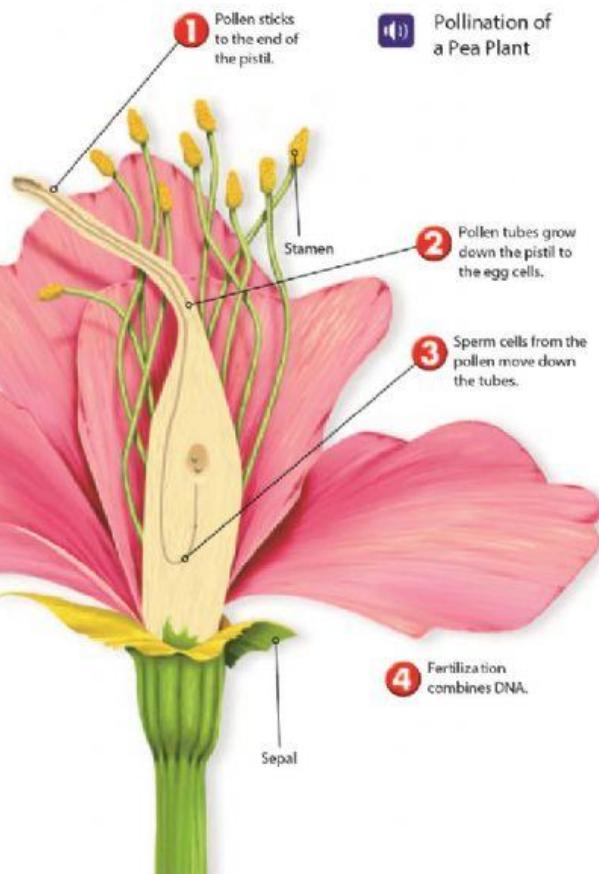


Pollination of a Pea Plant

Notice all the hairlike parts in this close-up of the end of a pea plant pistil. The tiny yellow grains are pollen.



After pollination, pollen tubes grow from pollen grains. This allows sperm to move to the egg cell.



Pollinating different Plants

Put the sentences in order.

- _____ The pollen tubes grow down the pistil to the egg cells.
- _____ Fertilization combines DNA.
- _____ Pollen sticks to the end of the pistil.
- _____ Sperm cells from the pollen move down the tubes.

B) Choose T or F.

- 1_ Two different plants can make a cell with a whole set of DNA.
- 2_ A new plant gets half of its DNA from only one parent.
- 3_ Sperm cells from the pollen move up the tubes.
- 4_ If a plant with red flowers is pollinated by a plant with white flowers, a plant with white flower will grow.
- 5_ Pollen sticks to the end of the stamen.