

Health and Family Life

The Male Reproductive System

Read the following notes. Answer the questions.

Marvellous Man

To understand what sex is all about and how pregnancy occurs, it is important to know the functions of the male and female reproductive systems.

Male Reproductive System

The male sex organ is the **penis**. Behind the penis is the **scrotum**, which is a skin sac that holds the two **testicles** (also known as testes) that make **sperm** and the male hormone, **testosterone**.

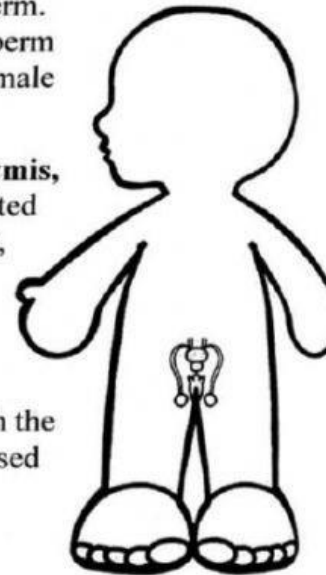
Once a young man starts puberty, his body is able to make sperm. From this point on, he is able to get a female pregnant. The sperm are made in the **testes** (testicles). The testes also produce the male hormone, **testosterone**.

After sperm are made, they travel through tubes in the **epididymis**, where they mature and are stored. If the sperm are not ejaculated from the body, they will be reabsorbed. During sexual arousal, the sperm travels through the **vas deferens** to the **prostate**, where the **fluid** is added. The fluid plus sperm makes up semen.

Ejaculation is when this semen comes out of the penis through the **urethra** during sexual activity. Only semen (no urine) is released during ejaculation.

When a man becomes aroused, the penis fills with blood and stiffens. This is known as an erection.

During puberty, young men begin an erection while they sleep and release semen. This is often called a wet dream. The clinical name is Nocturnal Emission.



1. What is the name of the male sex organ? _____
2. How many testes does a male have? _____
3. Once a young man's body is able to make _____ he is also able to get a female _____.
4. Name TWO things which are produced in the testes.
_____ and _____
5. What is the clinical/scientific name for a 'wet dream'?
