

Glossary

REPRODUCTION, PREGNANCY, AND DEVELOPMENT

E

egg (ovum) the sex cell that is made by the ovaries and that can be fertilized by sperm

embryo a developing human, from fertilization through the first 8 weeks of development

F

fallopian tube the female reproductive organ that connects an ovary to the uterus and that transports an egg from the ovary to the uterus

fertilization the process by which a sperm and an egg and their genetic material join to create a new human life

fetus a developing human, from the start of the ninth week of pregnancy until delivery

M

menstrual cycle a monthly series of hormone controlled changes that prepare the uterine lining for a pregnancy

O

ovary the female reproductive organ that produces eggs and the hormones estrogen and progesterone

P

penis the male reproductive organ that removes urine from the body and that can deliver sperm to the female reproductive system

placenta a blood vessel-rich organ that forms in a mother's uterus and that provides nutrients and oxygen to and removes waste from a developing baby

prenatal care the healthcare provided for a woman during her pregnancy

S

semen a fluid made up of sperm and other secretions from the male reproductive organs

sexual intercourse the reproductive process in which the penis is inserted into the vagina and through which a new human life may begin

sperm the sex cell that is made by the testes and that is needed to fertilize an egg from a female

T

testis (testicle) the male reproductive organ that makes sperm and testosterone

U

uterus the female reproductive organ that provides a place to support a developing human

V

vagina the female reproductive organ that connects the outside of the body to the uterus and that receives sperm during reproduction