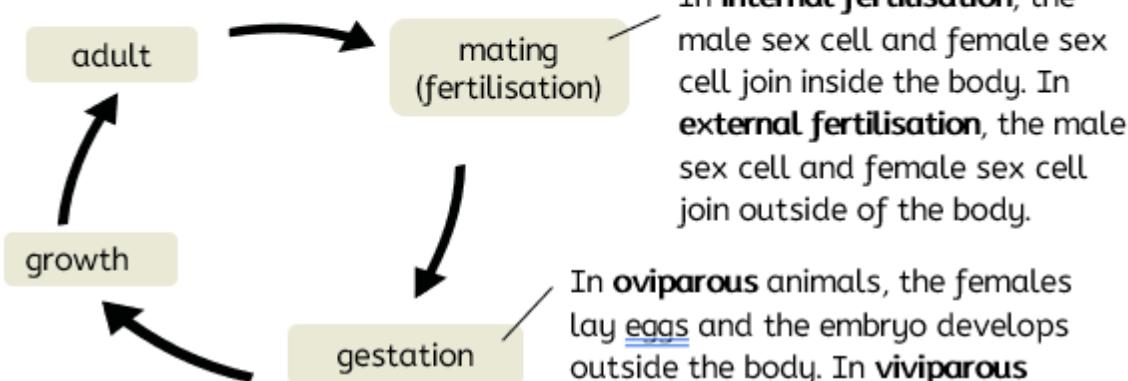


# Life cycles

## An animal's life cycle



In **internal fertilisation**, the male sex cell and female sex cell join inside the body. In **external fertilisation**, the male sex cell and female sex cell join outside of the body.

In **oviparous** animals, the females lay eggs and the embryo develops outside the body. In **viviparous** animals, the embryo develops inside an animal's body.

## Key vocabulary

- **asexual reproduction** (noun): When the offspring (the young) gets its genome from only one parent. The young will have the same genome as that parent (they are genetically identical).
- **cell** (noun): The smallest building block of all living things.
- **embryo** (noun): The first stage of development after fertilisation.
- **metamorphosis/metamorphose** (noun/verb): The process where the young of some animals go through physical changes to turn into the adult form.
- **sexual reproduction** (noun): When the offspring (the young) gets its genome from both parents.
- **genome** (noun): The information that controls how an individual organism will develop.

## What is a life cycle?

- A **life cycle** is the series of changes that plants and animals go through during their lifetime.
- Animals and plants all **grow, develop and reproduce** in a life cycle.
- In a life cycle, reproduction creates new life (**offspring**), and the life cycle continues.

## Sexual reproduction in plants

