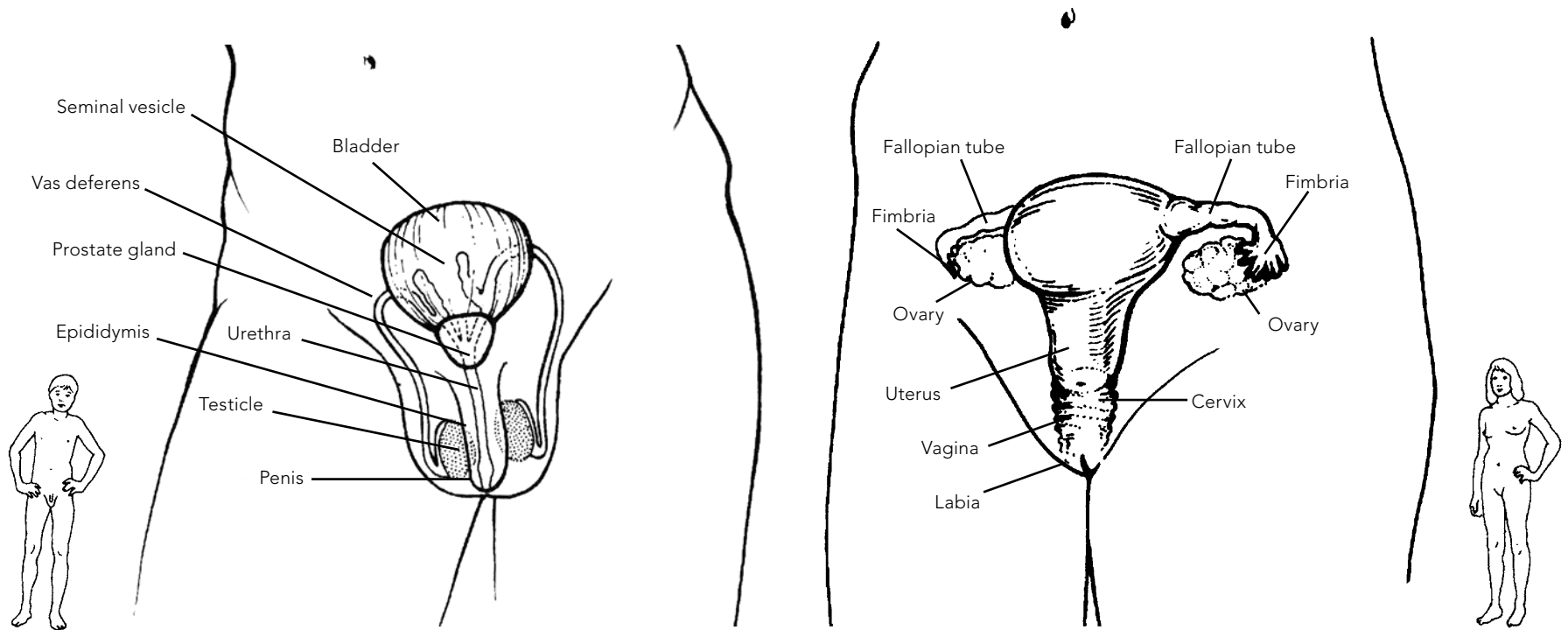


BRINGING THE BIOLOGY TOGETHER

How and Where Does It Happen? Female and Male Bodies in Summary.



PROCESS AND PATH OF EJACULATION

1. Millions of sperm are born and mature in the testes, and are then stored in the epididymis.
2. When ejaculation starts, the sperm are ejected from the epididymis through the tube called the vas deferens, and move into the body near the bladder.
3. As the sperm from each teste converge at the urethra inside the prostate, fluid is added from several glands including the seminal vesicles and prostate, making semen.
4. The semen is expelled from the urethral opening in the head of the penis.

THE PROCESS OF FERTILIZATION (PREGNANCY)

1. As in steps one and two of ovulation, a mature ovum is released from an ovary, is swept by the fimbria into a fallopian tube, and moves slowly toward the uterus.
2. When semen is ejaculated into the vagina, the sperm immediately begin swimming actively up through the cervix, through the length of the uterus, and into both fallopian tubes.
3. One sperm is received by the ovum; within seconds, the genetic material from mother and father combine, creating a genetic blueprint for the physical body of a unique human being.
4. The cells of the newly fertilized egg begin to divide rapidly while continuing down the fallopian tube.
5. In the uterus, the tiny multicellular embryo—still roughly the size of the original ovum—implants into the uterine wall.
6. Fetal growth begins; soon, the placenta forms to provide nutrients through the umbilical cord to the rapidly growing and maturing fetus.

PROCESS AND PATH OF OVULATION WITHOUT PREGNANCY

1. The woman's ova develop before birth and are stored in the ovaries; after puberty, one mature ovum is released from one ovary per menstrual cycle.
2. When released, the mature ovum is swept by the fimbria into a fallopian tube; it moves for several days toward the uterus, which has developed a richer lining to receive a fertilized ovum.
3. The unfertilized ovum is discharged in the woman's period through the cervix and vagina, along with extra blood and tissue of the uterine lining.