All living things reproduce, but none approach the process with more questions than adolescent humans. As their reproductive systems mature, most kids find themselves asking: What’s normal? What’s not? What’s true? What’s false? These activities will help students understand the anatomy and function of the male reproductive system.

**Related KidsHealth Links**

### Articles for Teens:

- **Male Reproductive System**
  TeensHealth.org/en/teens/male-repro.html

- **Testicular Exams**
  TeensHealth.org/en/teens/testicles.html

- **How to Perform a Testicular Self-Examination**
  TeensHealth.org/en/teens/tse.html

- **Testicular Injuries**
  TeensHealth.org/en/teens/testicular-injuries.html

- **Testicular Torsion**
  TeensHealth.org/en/teens/torsion.html

- **What Are Wet Dreams?**
  TeensHealth.org/en/teens/expert-wet-dreams.html

- **Is It Normal to Get Erections?**
  TeensHealth.org/en/teens/normal-erections.html

- **Is My Penis Normal?**
  TeensHealth.org/en/teens/penis.html

### Discussion Questions

*Note: The following questions are written in language appropriate for sharing with your students.*

1. Guys have both internal (inside the pelvis) and external (outside the pelvis) sex organs. What are the major male reproductive organs? What are they responsible for?

2. Although all the parts of the reproductive system are present at birth, they aren’t fully functional until adolescence. How does puberty affect the reproductive system? How are hormones involved?

3. Males and females are often said to be “opposite,” but, physically speaking, this isn’t entirely true. In what ways are the male and female reproductive systems similar? How do they depend on each other to create a new individual?

4. What is an erection? What is a wet dream? These are both natural, normal reactions, yet there’s a lot of misinformation out there about them. How do you think myths start? What’s the best way to clarify them?
Activities for Students

Note: The following activities are written in language appropriate for sharing with your students.

Male Reproductive System

Objectives:
Students will:
• Learn the names and functions of parts of the male reproductive system

Materials:
• Computer with Internet access
• “Male Reproductive System” handout
• Pen

Class Time:
• 20 minutes

Activity:
A baby boy is born with all the parts of his reproductive system in place. But these parts stay on hold for 9 to 15 years - almost like an actor waiting backstage a really long time for his cue. It isn't until puberty hits that the hormone testosterone kickstarts the reproductive changes that turn a boy into a young man capable of getting a girl pregnant if he has sex. Once it does, a guy starts experiencing all kinds of changes - sexual organ growth, a deeper voice, bigger muscles, body and facial hair, the production of sperm.

Let’s take a closer look at the male reproductive system by labeling its parts on the handout and briefly describing their functions.

Extensions:
1. Gametes are the sex cells (egg or ovum for females; sperm for males) that meet in the female’s reproductive system to create a new person. Write a paragraph describing the appearance, function, and unique properties of a sperm cell.

2. Create a flowchart that explains the journey of a sperm, from production to ejaculation. Where in the male reproductive system does a sperm cell originate? Where does it go from there?

3. Why is it important to protect the health of sexual organs? Discuss some ways males can do this.
Guy Talk

Objectives:
Students will:
• Use their knowledge of the male reproductive system to correct common misconceptions

Materials:
• Computer with Internet access
• “Guy Talk” handout
• Paper and pen

Class Time:
• 45 minutes

Activity:
“Hello friends, this is Dr. Guy Dudeman talking to you live, and today on Guy Talk we’re going to talk about what some people consider a sensitive subject - the male reproductive system. That’s right, penises, erections, ejaculation, and all that other stuff I know you want to know about. If you’ve got questions, I’ve got answers, so give a call and don’t be shy!”

Wow. The phone lines are lighting up. As the intern on the Guy Talk radio show, you’re going to help him prepare his answers. Using the articles at TeensHealth.org for research, compose thoughtful, thorough, and concise to three of his callers’ questions.

Extension:
Set up a box by the front of the room and encourage students to write their own anonymous questions and drop them in. Share some aloud together.

Reproducible Materials

Handout: Male Reproductive System
TeensHealth.org/classroom/6to8/body/systems/male_reproductive_handout1.pdf

Handout: Guy Talk
TeensHealth.org/classroom/6to8/body/systems/male_reproductive_handout2.pdf

Quiz: Male Reproductive System
TeensHealth.org/classroom/6to8/body/systems/male_reproductive_quiz.pdf

Answer Key: Male Reproductive System
TeensHealth.org/classroom/6to8/body/systems/male_reproductive_quiz_answers.pdf

KidsHealth.org is devoted to providing the latest children’s health information. The site, which is widely recommended by educators, libraries, and school associations, has received the “Teachers’ Choice Award for the Family” and the prestigious Pirelli Award for “Best Educational Media for Students.” KidsHealth comes from the nonprofit Nemours Foundation. Check out www.KidsHealth.org to see the latest additions!
Male Reproductive System

Instructions: Label the diagram and write the function of each part below.

- Seminal vesicles
- Prostate gland
- Bladder
- Urethra
- Epididymis
- Vas deferens
- Penis
- Scrotum
- Testicles

Guy Talk

Instructions: As an intern for the Guy Talk radio show, your job is to help the host answer questions from callers. Choose three of the questions below, do some research at TeensHealth.org, and write a response that’s both factual and reassuring.

“Sometimes I feel like I have the incredible shrinking testicles, especially when it’s cold. Why do they change size so often?”

“I’ve noticed that my penis is smaller than the other guys’ on my team. Is there something wrong with me? What can I do to make it grow?”

“I get erections in class when I’m not even thinking about sex! What’s going on? How can I keep this from happening?”

“I’ve been having so many wet dreams. I even had one at a sleepover. I’ve got to figure out how to control them. Any ideas?”

“I am uncircumcised and my friend has been telling me that circumcised is better. Is that true?”

“If you ejaculate a lot, is it possible to use up your sperm?”

“I found a lump in my scrotum. Is this normal?”
Quiz

Instructions: Answer each question.

1. The penis has two main parts: the ___________________________ and the ___________________________.

2. “Nocturnal emission” is the medical term for ___________________________.

3. What is the fluid that carries and nourishes the sperm?
   a) urine
   b) bile
   c) semen
   d) blood

4. The male accessory glands include the ___________________________ and the ___________________________.

5. The duct system is made up of the ___________________________ and the ___________________________.

6. True or false: When semen comes out of the penis, it’s called ejaculation.

7. True or false: There are bones in the penis.

8. In guys, the physical changes of puberty are caused by the hormone ___________________________.

9. Sperm is produced in the:
   a) testicles
   b) vas deferens
   c) penis
   d) seminal vesicle

10. Which is not a name for human sex cells:
    a) sperm
    b) gametes
    c) semen
    d) ova
Quiz Answer Key

1. The penis has two main parts: the ________ shaft ________ and the ________ glans ________.

2. “Nocturnal emission” is the medical term for ________ wet dream ________.

3. What is the fluid that carries and nourishes the sperm?
   a) urine
   b) bile
   c) semen
   d) blood

4. The male accessory glands include the ________ seminal vesicles ________ and the ________ prostate gland ________.

5. The duct system is made up of the ________ epididymis ________ and the ________ vas deferens ________.

6. True or false: When semen comes out of the penis, it’s called ejaculation.

7. True or false: There are bones in the penis.

8. In guys, the physical changes of puberty are caused by the hormone ________ testosterone ________.

9. Sperm is produced in the:
   a) testicles
   b) vas deferens
   c) penis
   d) seminal vesicle

10. Which is not a name for human sex cells:
    a) sperm
    b) gametes
    c) semen
    d) ova