

# Jan. 1D.: Gr. 8: Meiosis

Content Area: **Science**  
Course(s):  
Time Period: **January**  
Length: **1 Week**  
Status: **Published**

## Unit Overview

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When organisms undergo sexual reproduction, the gametes must first be formed through meiosis. In this concept, you will learn how new cells are formed when one female gamete and one male gamete come together.

## Enduring Understandings

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### Lesson Objectives

By the end of the lesson, students should be able to:

- Explain when meiosis occurs and in what organisms.
- Describe how chromosomes change and move at each stage of meiosis.
- Determine the number of chromosomes in the gametes of an organism given its parental chromosome number.
- Explain why meiosis allows diversity of characteristics in offspring, whereas mitosis does not.

## Essential Questions

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- **Overarching Question**
  - How do organisms live, grow, respond to their environment, and reproduce?
- **Focus Question**
  - How do organisms grow and develop?
- **Lesson Questions**
  - How does reproduction differ between unicellular and multicellular organisms?
  - What distinguishes meiosis from mitosis?
  - Which cells undergo meiosis I and what structures result?
  - What structures result from meiosis II?

- **Can You Explain?**

- What happens during each stage of meiosis, and what are the benefits of this type of reproduction?

## **Instructional Strategies & Learning Activities**

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- [The Five E Instructional Model](#)

Science Techbook follows the 5E instructional model. As you plan your lesson, the provided Model Lesson includes strategies for each of the 5Es.

- [Engage \(45–90 minutes\)](#)

Students are presented with the phenomenon of reproduction in bacteria and humans. Students begin to formulate ideas around the Can You Explain? (CYE) question.

- [Explore \(180 minutes\)](#)

Students investigate questions about how cells reproduce by using evidence from text and media assets. Students complete an Exploration about meiosis and mitosis.

- [Explain \(45–90 minutes\)](#)

Students construct scientific explanations to the CYE question by including evidence of what happens during each stage of meiosis, and what the benefits of this type of reproduction are.

- [Elaborate with STEM \(45–135 minutes\)](#)

Students apply their understanding of meiosis as they learn about in vitro fertilization, calculate gamete possibilities, and investigate recombinant DNA.

- [Evaluate \(45–90 minutes\)](#)

Students are evaluated on the state science standards, as well as Standards in ELA/Literacy and Standards in Math standards, using Board Builder and the provided concept summative assessments.

## **Integration of Career Readiness, Life Literacies and Key Skills**

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Students will work in small groups or partnerships to conduct investigations, build models or prototypes and present findings.

WRK.9.2.8.CAP	Career Awareness and Planning
WRK.9.2.8.CAP.1	Identify offerings such as high school and county career and technical school courses, apprenticeships, military programs, and dual enrollment courses that support career or occupational areas of interest.
WRK.9.2.8.CAP.2	Develop a plan that includes information about career areas of interest.
WRK.9.2.8.CAP.3	Explain how career choices, educational choices, skills, economic conditions, and personal behavior affect income.
WRK.9.2.8.CAP.4	Explain how an individual's online behavior (e.g., social networking, photo exchanges, video postings) may impact opportunities for employment or advancement.
TECH.9.4.8.DC.1	Analyze the resource citations in online materials for proper use.
TECH.9.4.8.DC.2	Provide appropriate citation and attribution elements when creating media products (e.g., W.6.8).
TECH.9.4.8.IML.1	Critically curate multiple resources to assess the credibility of sources when searching for information.
TECH.9.4.8.IML.3	Create a digital visualization that effectively communicates a data set using formatting techniques such as form, position, size, color, movement, and spatial grouping (e.g., 6.SP.B.4, 7.SP.B.8b).
TECH.9.4.8.IML.4	<p>Ask insightful questions to organize different types of data and create meaningful visualizations.</p> <p>Increases in the quantity of information available through electronic means have heightened the need to check sources for possible distortion, exaggeration, or misrepresentation.</p> <p>An individual's strengths, lifestyle goals, choices, and interests affect employment and income.</p> <p>Detailed examples exist to illustrate crediting others when incorporating their digital artifacts in one's own work.</p>

## **Technology and Design Integration**

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Technology is fully integrated using Discovery Techbook.

CS.6-8.8.1.8.CS.4	Systematically apply troubleshooting strategies to identify and resolve hardware and software problems in computing systems.
CS.6-8.8.1.8.DA.1	<p>Organize and transform data collected using computational tools to make it usable for a specific purpose.</p> <p>Troubleshooting a problem is more effective when knowledge of the specific device along with a systematic process is used to identify the source of a problem.</p> <p>People use digital devices and tools to automate the collection, use, and transformation of data. The manner in which data is collected and transformed is influenced by the type of digital device(s) available and the intended use of the data.</p> <p>Data is represented in many formats. Software tools translate the low-level representation of bits into a form understandable by individuals. Data is organized and accessible based on the application used to store it.</p>

## Interdisciplinary Connections

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LA.W.8.1	Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.
LA.W.8.2	Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.
LA.W.8.7	Conduct short research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question), drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions that allow for multiple avenues of exploration.
LA.RI.8.1	Cite the textual evidence and make relevant connections that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
LA.RI.8.4	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.
LA.RI.8.7	Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of using different mediums (e.g., print or digital text, video, multimedia) to present a particular topic or idea.
LA.RI.8.8	Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; recognize when irrelevant evidence is introduced.
LA.RI.8.10	By the end of the year read and comprehend literary nonfiction at grade level text-complexity or above, with scaffolding as needed.
LA.SL.8.1	Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 8 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.
LA.SL.8.4	Present claims and findings, emphasizing salient points in a focused, coherent manner with relevant evidence, sound valid reasoning, and well-chosen details; use appropriate eye contact, adequate volume, and clear pronunciation.
LA.RST.6-8	Reading Science and Technical Subjects
LA.RST.6-8.1	Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of science and technical texts.
LA.RST.6-8.2	Determine the central ideas or conclusions of a text; provide an accurate summary of the text distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.
LA.RST.6-8.3	Follow precisely a multistep procedure when carrying out experiments, taking measurements, or performing technical tasks.
LA.RST.6-8.4	Determine the meaning of symbols, key terms, and other domain-specific words and phrases as they are used in a specific scientific or technical context relevant to grades 6-8 texts and topics.
LA.RST.6-8.5	Analyze the structure an author uses to organize a text, including how the major sections contribute to the whole and to an understanding of the topic.
LA.RST.6-8.6	Analyze the author's purpose in providing an explanation, describing a procedure, or discussing an experiment in a text.
LA.RST.6-8.7	Integrate quantitative or technical information expressed in words in a text with a version of that information expressed visually (e.g., in a flowchart, diagram, model, graph, or table).
LA.RST.6-8.9	Compare and contrast the information gained from experiments, simulations, video, or multimedia sources with that gained from reading a text on the same topic.
LA.RST.6-8.10	By the end of grade 8, read and comprehend science/technical texts in the grades 6-8 text complexity band independently and proficiently.
LA.WHST.6-8	Writing History, Science and Technical Subjects
LA.WHST.6-8.1	Write arguments focused on discipline-specific content.

LA.WHST.6-8.2	Write informative/explanatory texts, including the narration of historical events, scientific procedures/experiments, or technical processes.
LA.WHST.6-8.4	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, voice, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
LA.WHST.6-8.5	With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed.
LA.WHST.6-8.6	Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and present the relationships between information and ideas clearly and efficiently.
LA.WHST.6-8.7	Conduct short research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question), drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions that allow for multiple avenues of exploration.
LA.WHST.6-8.8	Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.
LA.WHST.6-8.9	Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
LA.WHST.6-8.10	Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, metacognition/self correction, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

## **Differentiation**

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### Struggling Students

1. If you feel that students need support in understanding the process of meiosis, have them watch the Meiosis glossary animation, stopping after each slide to discuss what happened and check for understanding. Instruct students to make drawings showing the appearance of the cell during each phase, with brief notes describing what takes place. Follow this up with a class discussion, using drawings, to reinforce learning.
2. Have a class discussion in which you ask students to explain why the variety of different types of gametes is an important result of meiosis. Students should understand that meiosis

### ELL

1. Allow Spanish-speaking students to complete the Spanish version of the Exploration [You Say Meiosis, I Say Mitosis](#). After completing the Exploration, have students work with a partner to complete the Student Guide in English.
2. Have students divide up into groups and do the [Hands-On Activity Meiosis Simulation](#). Creating a model of meiosis will help students learn by doing and help cement new English vocabulary.

### Accelerated Students

1. Ask students to think about and predict whether there might be a relationship between organism type and size and chromosome number. Then, assign them to research how many chromosomes different species of organisms have. Instruct them to select a wide variety of organism types, including mammals, reptiles, plants, and bacteria. Ask them whether their research results confirmed or refuted their predictions.
2. Challenge students to create a series of diagrams showing how the sex chromosomes (X and Y) are sorted in meiosis into gametes. Instruct them to use their diagrams to explain why the chance of an offspring being either gender is about

increases genetic diversity in a population. This genetic diversity increases the chances for survival of populations when environmental changes occur.

50%.

[Differentiation in science](#) can be accomplished in several ways. Once you have given a pre-test to students, you know what information has already been mastered and what they still need to work on. Next, you design activities, discussions, lectures, and so on to teach information to students. The best way is to have two or three groups of students divided by ability level.

While you are instructing one group, the other groups are working on activities to further their knowledge of the concepts. For example, while you are helping one group learn the planet names in order, another group is researching climate, size, and distance from the moon of each planet. Then the groups switch, and you instruct the second group on another objective from the space unit. The first group practices writing the order of the planets and drawing a diagram of them.

Here are some ideas for the classroom when you are using differentiation in science:

- Create a tic-tac-toe board that lists different activities at different ability levels. When students aren't involved in direct instruction with you, they can work on activities from their tic-tac-toe board. These boards have nine squares, like a tic-tac-toe board; and each square lists an activity that corresponds with the science unit. For example, one solar system activity for advanced science students might be to create a power point presentation about eclipses. For beginning students, an activity might be to make a poster for one of the planets and include important data such as size, order from the sun, whether it has moons, and so on.
- Find websites on the current science unit that students can explore on their own.
- Allow students to work in small groups to create a project throughout the entire unit. For example, one group might create a solar system model to scale. Another group might write a play about the solar system. This is an activity these groups can work on while they are not working directly with you.

Differentiation in science gets students excited to learn because it challenges them to expand their knowledge and skills, instead of teaching the whole group concepts they have already mastered

## **Modifications & Accommodations**

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Refer to QSAC EXCEL SMALL SPED ACCOMMODATIONS spreadsheet in this discipline.

**Modifications and Accommodations used in this unit:**

In addition to differentiated instruction, IEP's and 504 accommodations will be utilized.

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## **Benchmark Assessments**

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**Benchmark Assessments** are given periodically (e.g., at the end of every quarter or as frequently as once per month) throughout a school year to establish baseline achievement data and measure progress toward a standard or set of academic standards and goals.

### **Schoolwide Benchmark assessments:**

Aimsweb benchmarks 3X a year

Linkit Benchmarks 3X a year

### **Additional Benchmarks used in this unit:**

Pre and post assessments to measure growth.

## **Formative Assessments**

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Assessment allows both instructor and student to monitor progress towards achieving learning objectives, and can be approached in a variety of ways. **Formative assessment** refers to tools that identify misconceptions, struggles, and learning gaps along the way and assess how to close those gaps. It includes effective tools for helping to shape learning, and can even bolster students' abilities to take ownership of their learning when they understand that the goal is to improve learning, not apply final marks (Trumbull and Lash, 2013). It can include students assessing themselves, peers, or even the instructor, through writing, quizzes, conversation, and more. In short, formative assessment occurs throughout a class or course, and seeks to improve student achievement of learning objectives through approaches that can support specific student needs (Theal and Franklin, 2010, p. 151).

### **Formative Assessments used in this unit:**

See assessments located in links above.

## Summative Assessments

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**Summative assessments** evaluate student learning, knowledge, proficiency, or success at the conclusion of an instructional period, like a unit, course, or program. Summative assessments are almost always formally graded and often heavily weighted (though they do not need to be). Summative assessment can be used to great effect in conjunction and alignment with formative assessment, and instructors can consider a variety of ways to combine these approaches.

### Summative assessments for this unit:

See assessments located in links above.

## Instructional Materials

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See materials located in links above.

Discovery Techbook

Teacher made materials

Additional labs are available through NJCTL on-line curriculum

## Standards

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MA.6.EE.C.9	Use variables to represent two quantities in a real-world problem that change in relationship to one another; write an equation to express one quantity, thought of as the dependent variable, in terms of the other quantity, thought of as the independent variable. Analyze the relationship between the dependent and independent variables using graphs and tables, and relate these to the equation.
SCI.MS.LS1.A	Structure and Function
SCI.MS.LS1.B	Growth and Development of Organisms
SCI.MS-LS1-4	Use argument based on empirical evidence and scientific reasoning to support an explanation for how characteristic animal behaviors and specialized plant structures affect the probability of successful reproduction of animals and plants respectively.
SCI.MS-LS1-1	<p>Conduct an investigation to provide evidence that living things are made of cells; either one cell or many different numbers and types of cells.</p> <p>Genes are located in the chromosomes of cells, with each chromosome pair containing two variants of each of many distinct genes. Each distinct gene chiefly controls the production of specific proteins, which in turn affects the traits of the individual. Changes(mutations) to genes can result in changes to proteins, which can affect the structures and functions of the organism and thereby change traits.</p> <p>All living things are made up of cells, which is the smallest unit that can be said to be alive. An organism may consist of one single cell (unicellular) or many different numbers and</p>



types of cells (multicellular).

#### Developing and Using Models

Within cells, special structures are responsible for particular functions, and the cell membrane forms the boundary that controls what enters and leaves the cell.

#### Structure and Function

Complex and microscopic structures and systems can be visualized, modeled, and used to describe how their function depends on the relationships among its parts, therefore complex natural structures/systems can be analyzed to determine how they function.

Modeling in 6–8 builds on K–5 experiences and progresses to developing, using, and revising models to describe, test, and predict more abstract phenomena and design systems.

Assessment of organelle structure/function relationships is limited to the cell wall and cell membrane. Assessment of the function of the other organelles is limited to their relationship to the whole cell. Assessment does not include the biochemical function of cells or cell parts.

Emphasis is on the cell functioning as a whole system and the primary role of identified parts of the cell, specifically the nucleus, chloroplasts, mitochondria, cell membrane, and cell wall.

Emphasis is on developing evidence that living things are made of cells, distinguishing between living and non-living things, and understanding that living things may be made of one cell or many and varied cells.

Develop and use a model to describe phenomena.

In multicellular organisms, the body is a system of multiple interacting subsystems. These subsystems are groups of cells that work together to form tissues and organs that are specialized for particular body functions.