Meiosis



I. What?

- A. The process by which sex cells are produced.
- B. The steps are similar to mitosis.



II. Sex cells

A. In animals:

- 1. Sperm (male sex cell)
- 2. Egg (female sex cell)



B. In plants:

- Pollen (male sex cell)
- 2. Ovum (female sex cell)



III. Chromosome number

- A. Sex cells (gametes) are *haploid* (n): one set of chromosomes
- B. Body (somatic) cells are *diploid* (2n): *two sets of chromosomes*



IV. Fertilization

- A. Animals Sperm and egg unite to form the first body cell of an organism, a <u>zygote</u>.
- B. Plants
 Sperm (in pollen)
 and egg (in ovule)
 unite to form a
 zygote.



V. Growth

A. Once the zygote has formed, it begins to divide through the process of mitosis.



Meiosis, Fertilization, and Mitosis



The Steps of Meiosis

DIAGRAM OF THE STAGES OF MEIOSIS



I. Overview

- A. Similar to mitosis:
 - 1. Cell division
 - 2. PMAT are similar
- B. Unlike mitosis:
 - 1. Two cell divisions
 - 2. Four cells form from one



II. Before Meiosis during Interphase

- A. Chromosomes are replicated (DNA)
- B. Meiosis begins with a 4n number of chromosomes (four sets)





III. The Details:





- 1. Prophase I (preparing)
 - a. Nuclear membrane dissolves
 - b. Spindle fibers form
 - c. Chromosomes condense
 - *d. Crossing over* occurs between homologous chromosomes



- 2. Metaphase I (middle)
 - a. Homologous chromosomes line up in the middle of the cell



(with kinetochore)

Tetrads line up

3. Anaphase I (apart)

a. Homologous
 chromosomes are
 pulled apart by the
 spindle fibers



- 4. Telophase I (two cells form)
 - a. Chromosomes uncondense (uncoil)
 - b. Nuclear membrane briefly reappears



Two haploid cells form; chromosomes are still double

Meiosis II



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- 1. Identical to mitosis
- 2. No interphase before meiosis II
- 3. The Steps:



a. Prophase II



b. Metaphase II



- c. Anaphase II
 - The sister
 chromatids pull apart
 during anaphase II
 just like mitosis



Sister chromatids separate



d. Telophase II



Haploid daughter cells forming



IV. The End Result

- A. Four haploid cells form from one diploid cell
- B. Each cell is unique because of:
 - 1. Crossing over
 - 2. Different possible chromosome alignments



number (n) of unduplicated chromosomes