

## Skills Worksheet

# Active Reading

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## Section: Reproduction

Read the passage below. Then answer the questions that follow.

Some organisms look exactly like their parents and siblings. Others share traits with family members but are not identical to them. Some organisms have two parents, while others have one. The type of reproduction that produces an organism determines how similar the organism is to its parents and siblings. Reproduction, the process of producing offspring, can be asexual or sexual.

In *asexual reproduction*, a single parent passes copies of all its genes to each of its offspring. As a result, offspring are identical to the parent. Prokaryotes reproduce by a type of asexual reproduction called *binary fission*. Some eukaryotes asexually reproduce by methods such as *fragmentation*, *budding*, and *parthenogenesis*.

In contrast, in *sexual reproduction*, two parents each form reproductive cells called **gametes** that have one-half the number of chromosomes. A diploid mother and father would give rise to haploid gametes, which join to form diploid offspring with a full set of chromosomes. Because both parents contribute genetic material, the offspring have traits of both parents but are not exactly like either parent. Sexual reproduction, with the formation of haploid cells, occurs in most eukaryotic organisms, including humans.

### SKILL: READING EFFECTIVELY

Read each question, and write your answer in the space provided.

1. Write a sentence that states the main idea of this passage.

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2. What is a gamete?

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**Active Reading** *continued*

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3. What are four forms of asexual reproduction?

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4. Why do offspring that are produced through sexual reproduction show traits of each parent?

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5. How are sexual and asexual reproduction similar?

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6. How are sexual and asexual reproduction different?

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**An analogy is a comparison. In the space provided, write the letter of the term that best completes the analogy.**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Asexual reproduction is to one as sexual reproduction is to
- a. many.
  - b. fission.
  - c. two.
  - d. four.