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Investigating Reproductive Strategies

What are the advantages and disadvantages of sexual and asexual reproduction?

Is one "better" than the other? You are an Ecologist who wants to find out. You decide to compare 5 aspects of organisms that reproduce sexually with ones that reproduce asexually. You will begin by looking at two organisms. Once you make your comparisons, you will share your information with all of the other ecologists in your class to draw general conclusions about each method of reproduction.

Fill in the table below with information for each organism you have been assigned.

	Sexual	Asexual
Relative complexity of organism (including size)		
Number of parents who contribute genetic information to the offspring		
Reproductive mechanism		
Relative amount of parental care		
Genetic variation in the offspring		

Now summarize: What are the 3 main differences between Sexual and Asexual reproduction?

Use the information on the other side to compose a paragraph (6 sentences or more).

1. Start with a topic sentence
2. List 3 trait differences and give examples of both types of reproduction
3. Write a conclusion.
