



Where do babies come from?

Theme: Growing & Changing

Topic: Life Stages

Year: R

NB: this plan includes discussions and activities about different types of families. It's recommended that in advance of teaching about this you speak to the parents of children who are in a same-sex relationship family. They may want to be consulted about what the children are learning.

Introduction - whole class

Read a book about babies, such as *There's a House Inside my Mummy** by Giles Andrae and Vanessa Cabban or *And Tango Makes Three* by Peter Parnell and Justin Richardson with its theme of caring and the role of family, rather than just the science aspects of human reproduction.

(*If reading this book, you can also play spot the little giraffe - a mini Harold - which appears on several pages.)

Then ask the questions:

- Where do babies come from?
- What do they do in their mummy's tummy?
- When do they come out?
- What do they need when they are out?
- How did they get there? (A type of seed, called an egg, from mummy/a woman and a type of seed, called a sperm, from daddy/a man.)

So now we know that babies come from a woman's tummy.

Sometimes the baby comes from its birth mummy and daddy, as in this case (described above).

Sometimes another person is their mummy or daddy or special person. This is called adoption or surrogacy; it's one of the reasons why sometimes children look like their parents and sometimes they don't.

Adult-supported activities (individual or small groups)

Activity 1 - Matching pairs

Using the pairs cards, (see Resources needed area) children can work in pairs or small groups to match up the baby animal with its adult equivalent. Cards can be laminated and put into Continuous Provision when each group has had a turn matching them.

Talk with the children about how we know they match (they look the same).

What about tadpoles and butterflies? (Sometimes a baby doesn't look the same as its parents.)

This can lead to a discussion about how some children are created using donated sperm/egg or are adopted, but that doesn't mean that the families love them any less.

Families are people who provide us with love. That means they care for us and keep us safe.