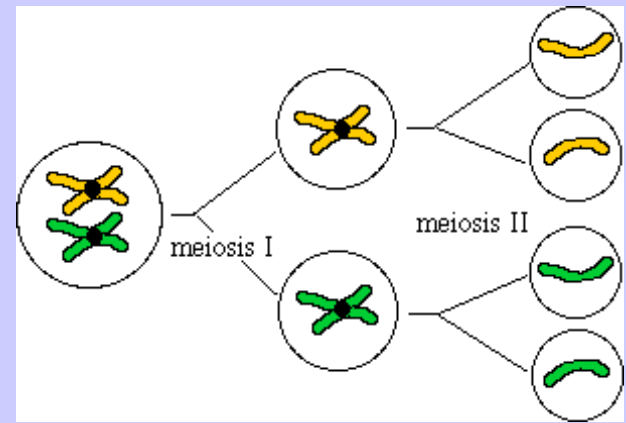


***For a species to  
survive,  
it must REPRODUCE!***



# **Ch 13 NOTES – Meiosis**

## **Genetics Terminology:**

Autosomes

Somatic cell

Gamete

Karyotype

Homologous chromosomes

Meiosis

Sex chromosomes

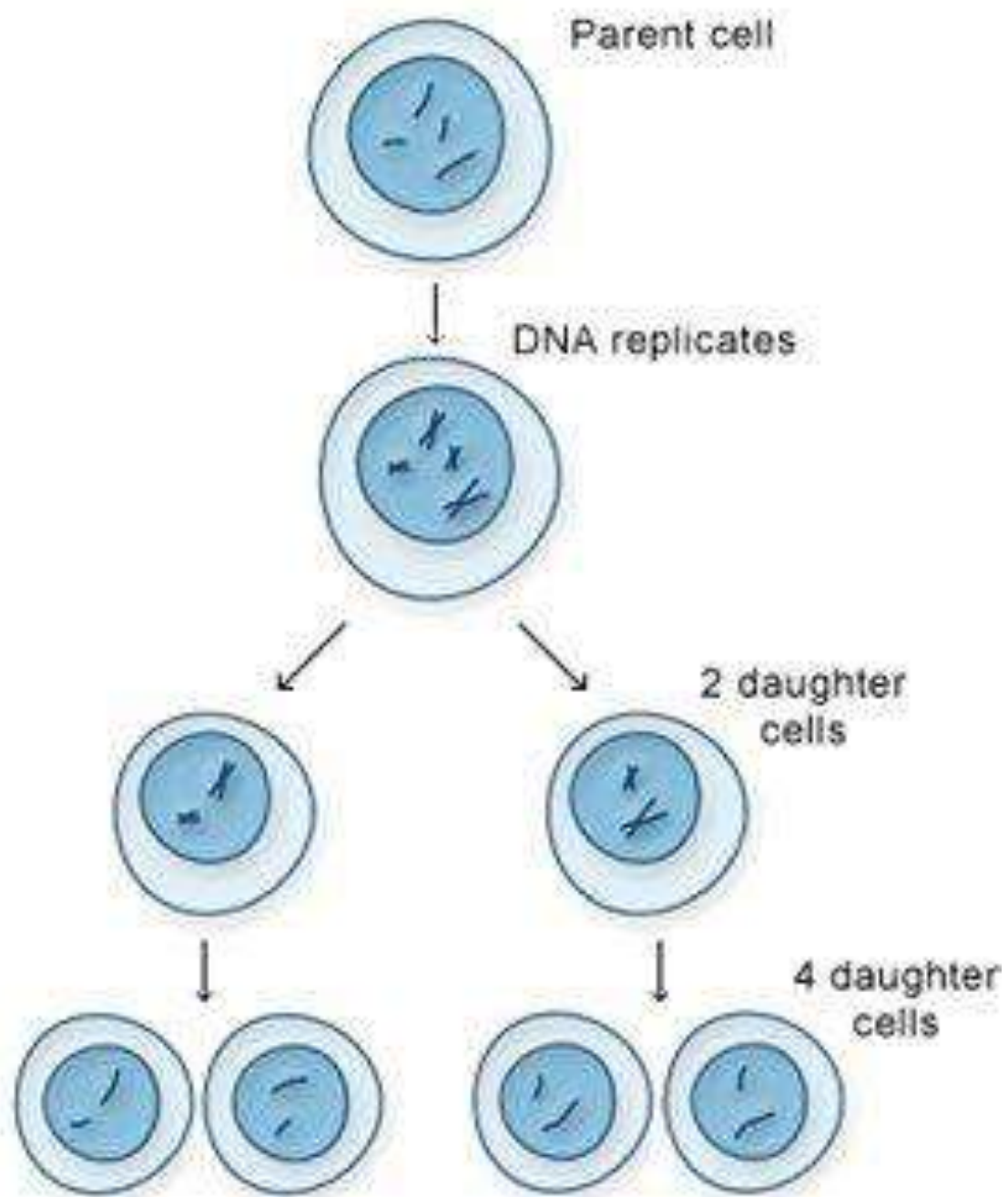
Diploid

Haploid

Zygote

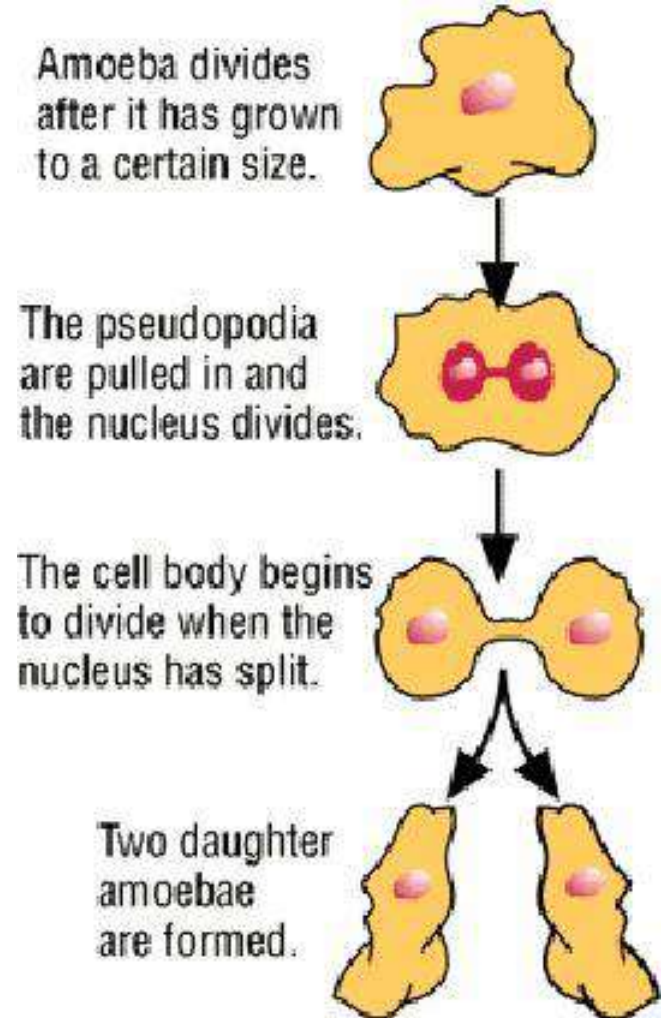
Synapsis

Crossing over



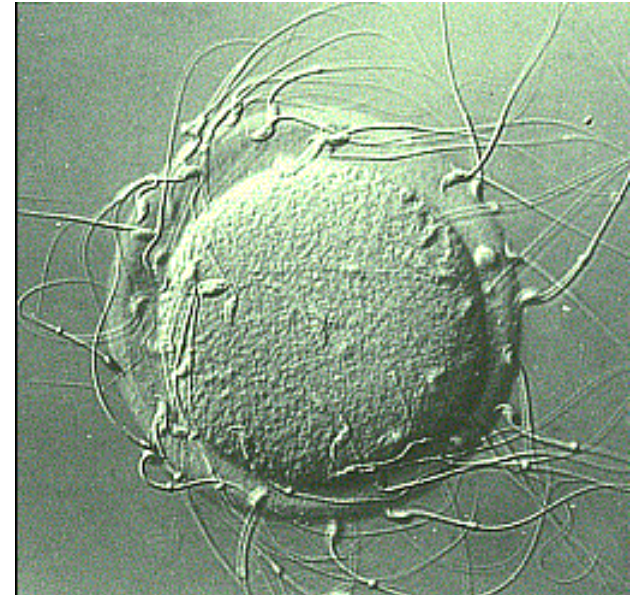
# 1) ASEXUAL REPRODUCTION:

- each new organism gets a set of chromosomes identical to parents
- DNA from generation to generation remains the same
- therefore, no differences or variations occur in the offspring (difficult to adapt!)



## 2) SEXUAL REPRODUCTION:

- fusion of nuclei from 2 special cells: GAMETES  
(female gamete = egg; male gamete = sperm)
- with 2 parents, offspring receive half of their chromosomes from the female parent and half from the male parent.
- therefore, the offspring will show new combinations of characteristics



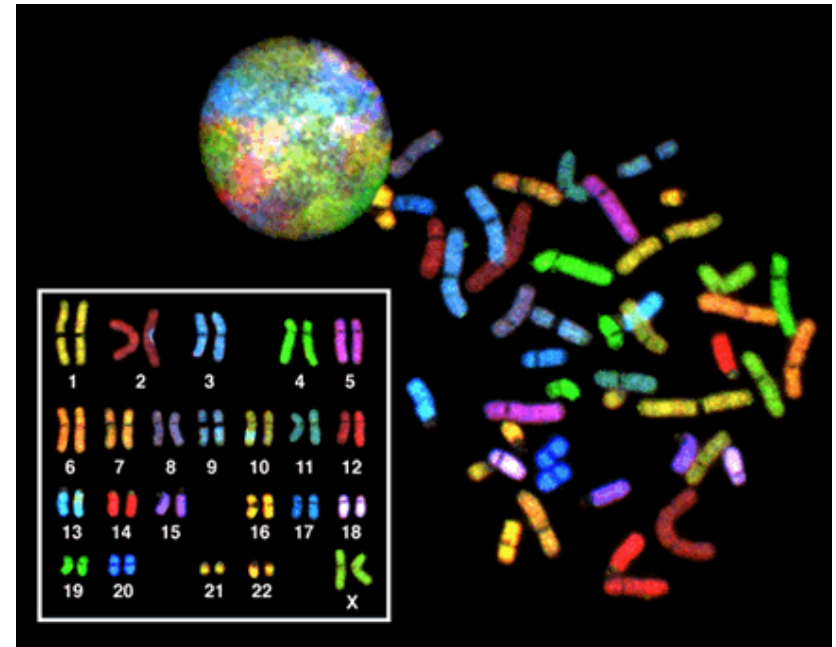
***\*\*Sexual reproduction leads to VARIATION!***  
*(this ensures the survival of a species)*



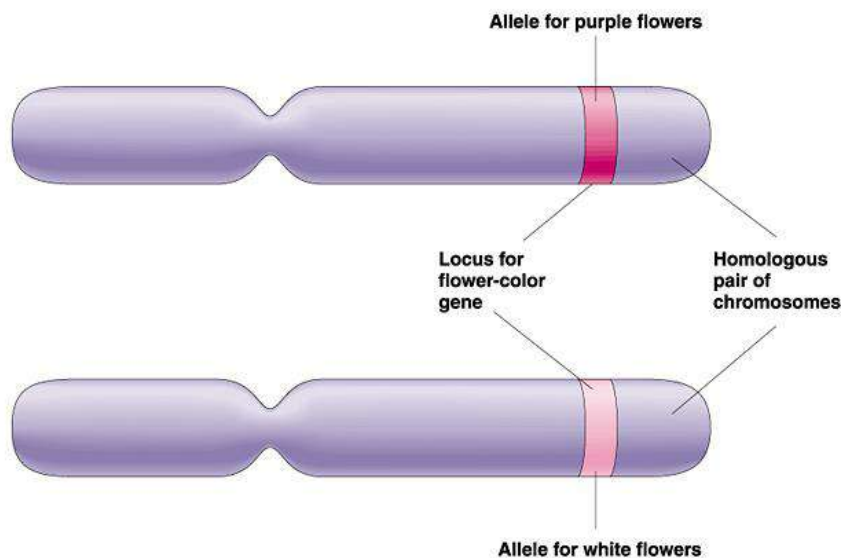
- **SOMATIC CELLS** = all cells EXCEPT the gametes
- each somatic cell of an organism contains a specific # of chromosomes (humans = 46)

# Sets of Chromosomes in Human Cells

- Each human somatic cell (any cell other than a gamete) has 46 chromosomes arranged in pairs
- A **KARYOTYPE** is an ordered display of the pairs of chromosomes from a cell

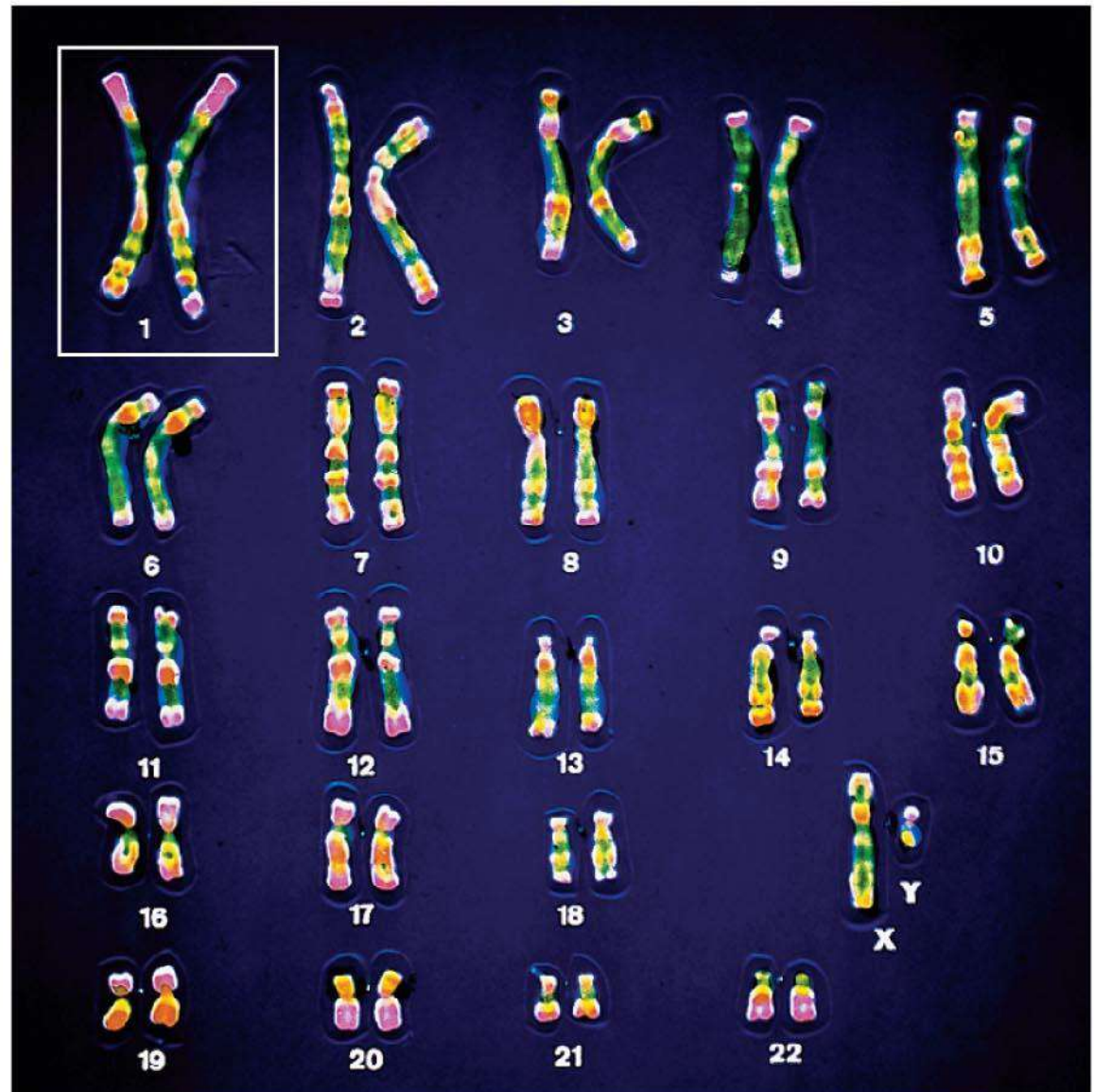
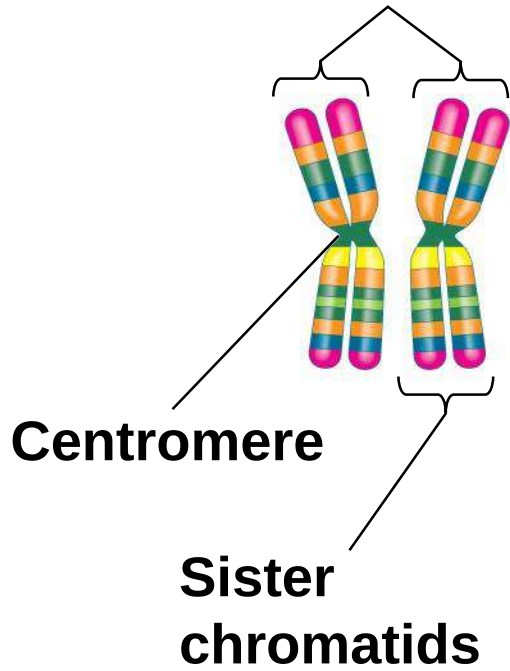


- the chromosomes occur in “matching pairs” (1 member of each pair came from the egg and 1 member came from the sperm)
- these pairs of chromosomes are called **HOMOLOGOUS PAIRS**
- Both chromosomes in a pair carry genes controlling the same inherited characteristics

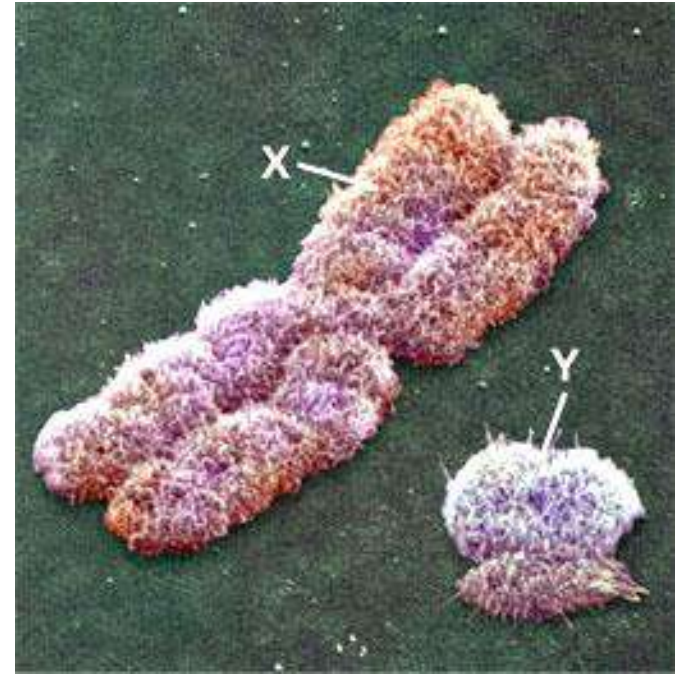


# Pair of homologous chromosomes

5  $\mu$ m



- The sex chromosomes are called X and Y
- Human females have a homologous pair of X chromosomes (XX)
- Human males have one X and one Y chromosome
- The 22 pairs of chromosomes that do not determine sex are called AUTOSOMES

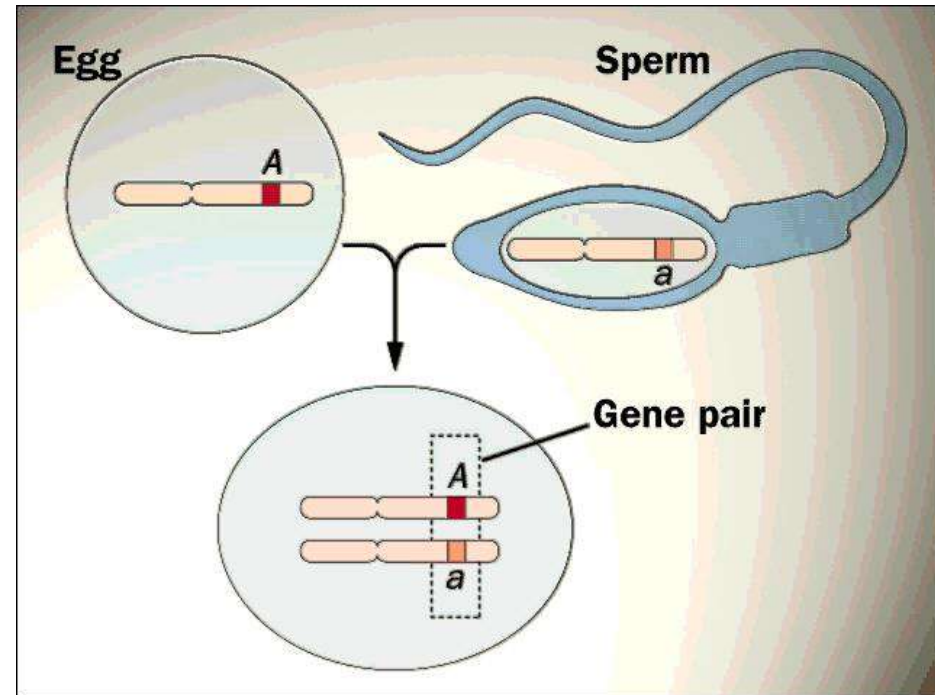


# Human Gamete

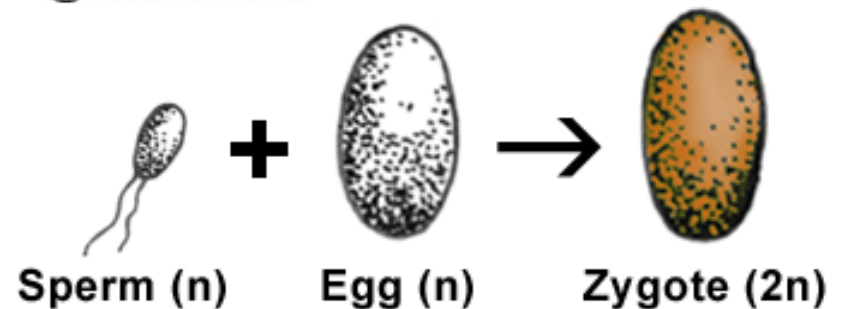
~cells with half the # of chromosomes are **HAPLOID** ( $n$ )

# Human Somatic Cell

~cells with full # of chromosomes are **DIPLOID** ( $2n$ )



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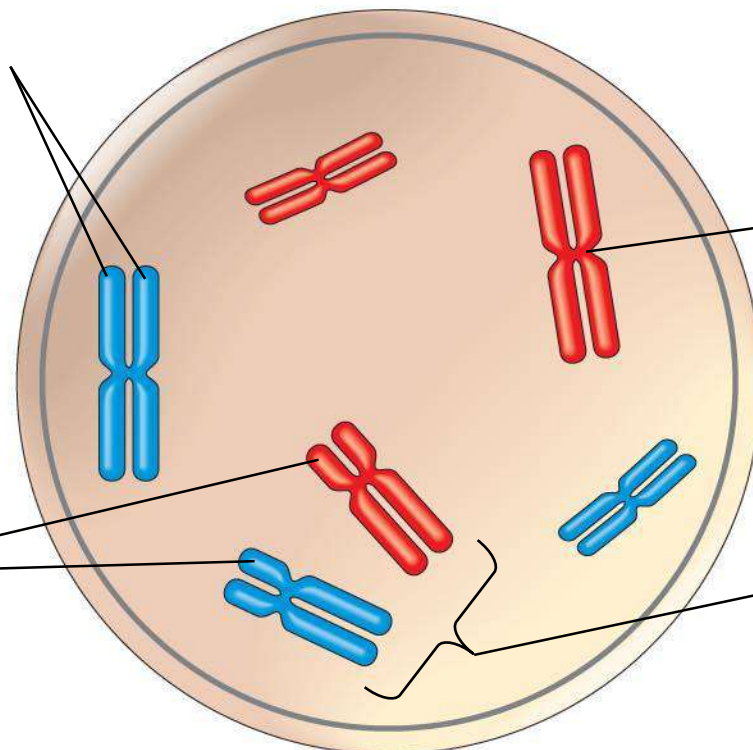


## Key

$2n = 6$  {  Maternal set of chromosomes ( $n = 3$ )  
 Paternal set of chromosomes ( $n = 3$ )

Two sister chromatids of one replicated chromosome

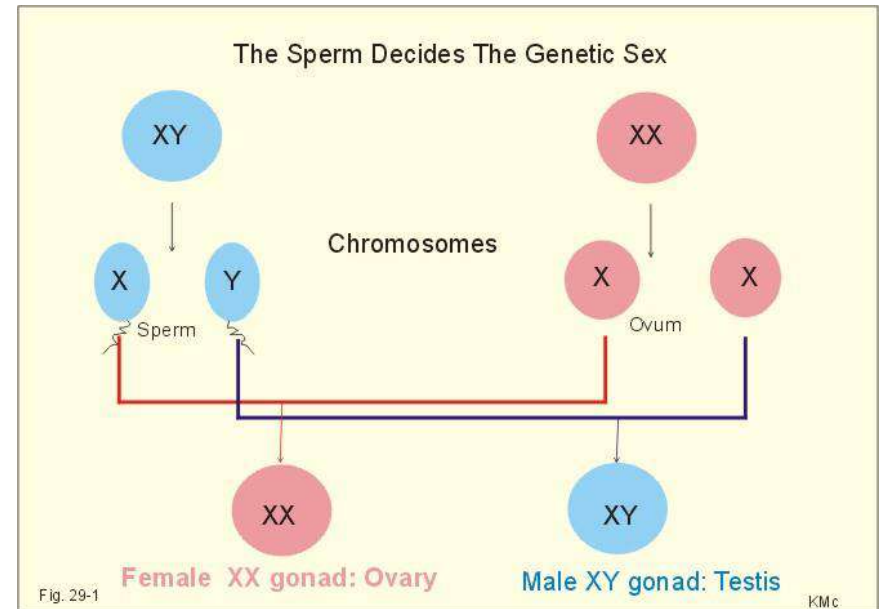
Two nonsister chromatids in a homologous pair



Centromere

Pair of homologous chromosomes (one from each set)

- Gametes are haploid cells, containing only one set of chromosomes
- For humans, the haploid number is 23 ( $n = 23$ )
- Each set of 23 consists of 22 autosomes and a single sex chromosome
- In an unfertilized egg (ovum), the sex chromosome is X
- In a sperm cell, the sex chromosome may be either X or Y



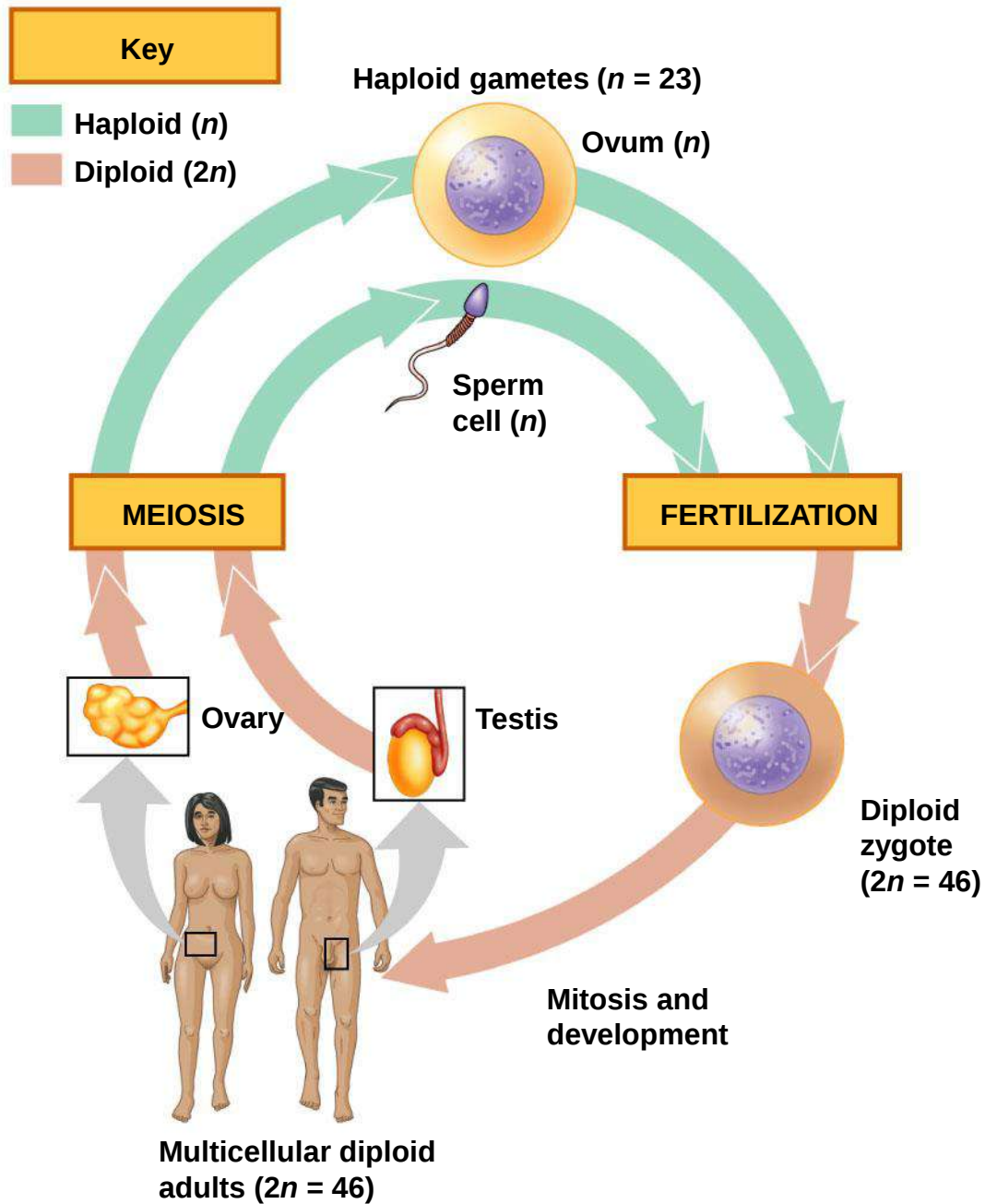
- the union of 2 haploid gametes restores the diploid # of chromosomes  
**(Fertilization!)**
- **MEIOSIS**: cell division in which daughter cells receive only  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the chromosomes of the parent cell
  - ***RESULT: formation of gametes!***
- occurs only in reproductive tissues  
male = testes                      female = ovaries



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# Behavior of Chromosome Sets in the Human Life Cycle - OVERVIEW

- At sexual maturity, the ovaries and testes produce haploid gametes
- Gametes are the only types of human cells produced by meiosis, rather than mitosis
- Meiosis results in one set of chromosomes in each gamete
- Fertilization, the fusing of gametes, restores the diploid condition, forming a zygote
- The diploid zygote develops into an adult

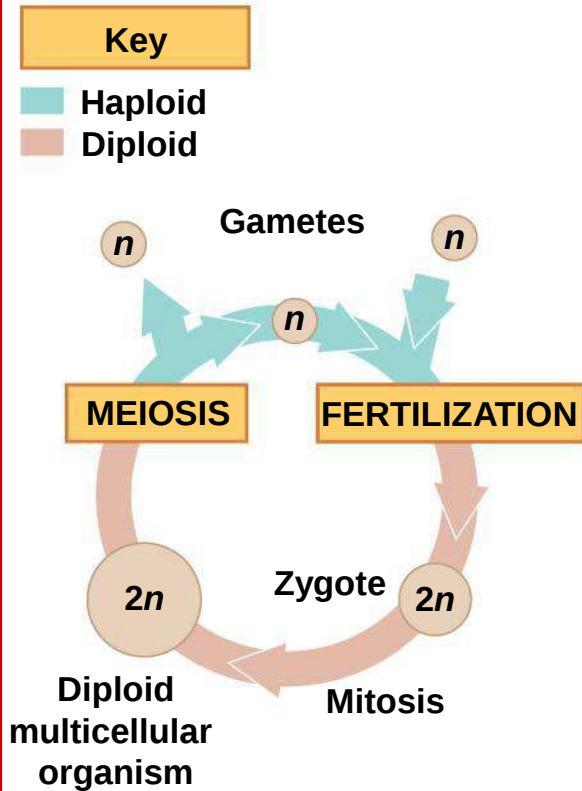


# **The Variety of Sexual Life Cycles**

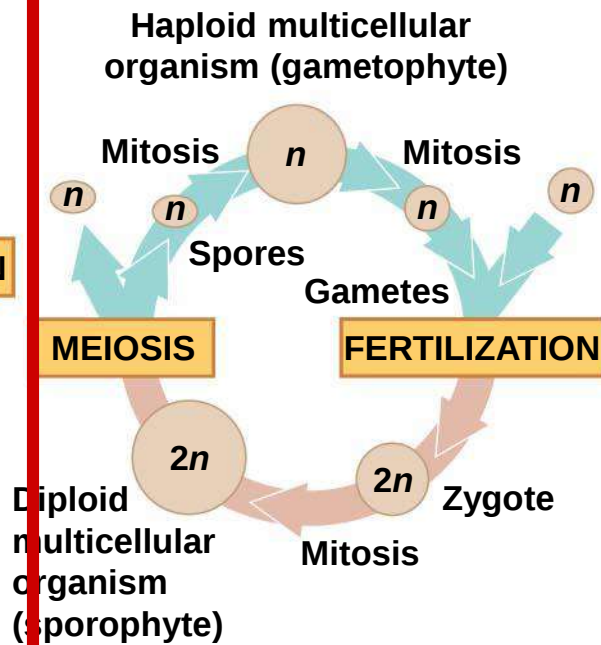
- The alternation of meiosis and fertilization is common to all organisms that reproduce sexually
- The three main types of sexual life cycles differ in the timing of meiosis and fertilization

# ANIMALS

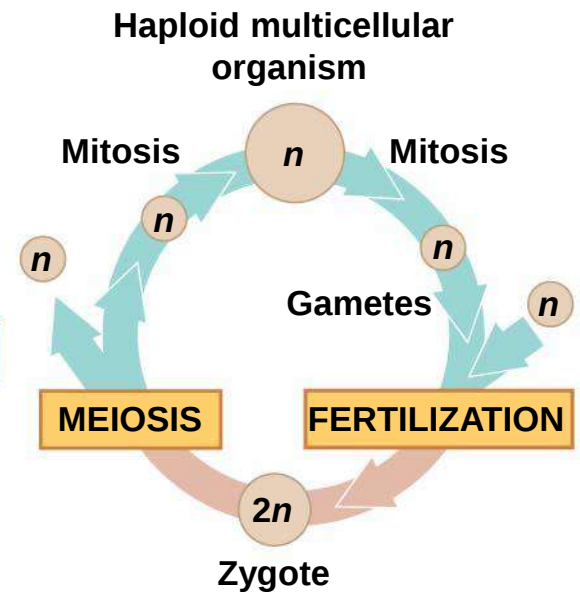
- In animals, meiosis produces gametes, which undergo no further cell division before fertilization
- Gametes are the only haploid cells in animals
- Gametes fuse to form a diploid zygote that divides by mitosis to develop into a multicellular organism



(a) Animals



(b) Plants and some algae



(c) Most fungi and some protists

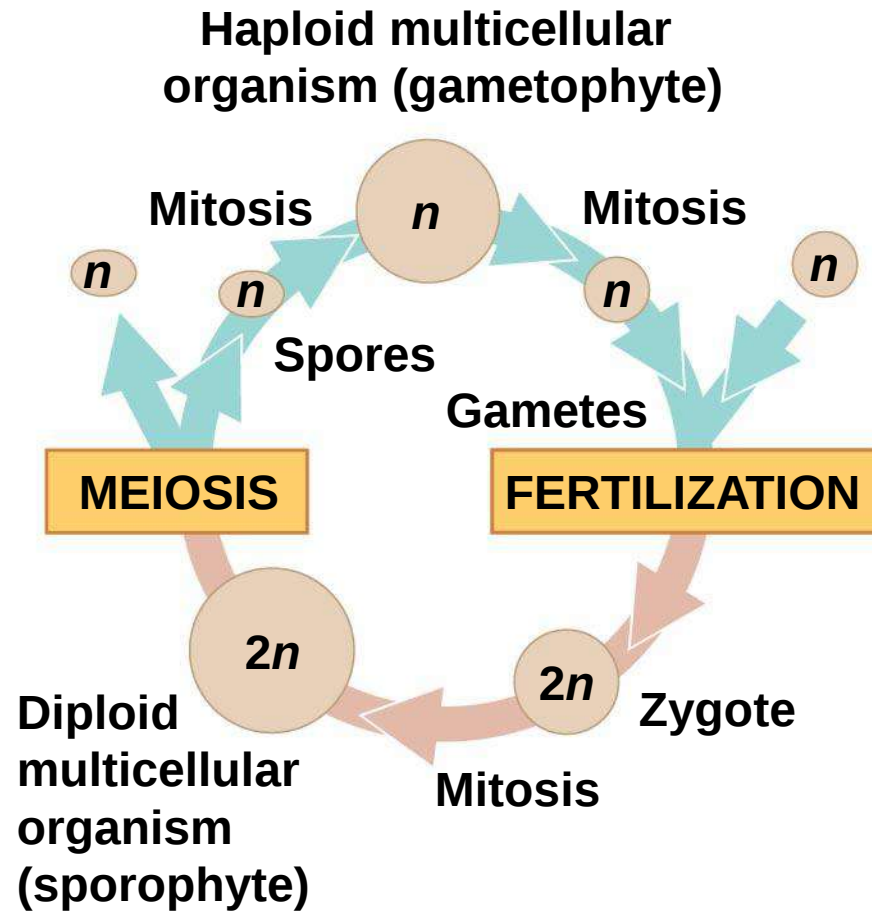
# PLANTS

- Plants and some algae exhibit an alternation of generations
- This life cycle includes two multicellular generations or stages: one diploid and one haploid
- The diploid organism, the **SPOROPHYTE**, makes haploid spores by meiosis
- Each spore grows by mitosis into a haploid organism called a **GAMETOPHYTE**
- A gametophyte makes haploid gametes by mitosis

## Key

 Haploid

 Diploid



## (b) Plants and some algae

# **FUNGI and PROTISTS**

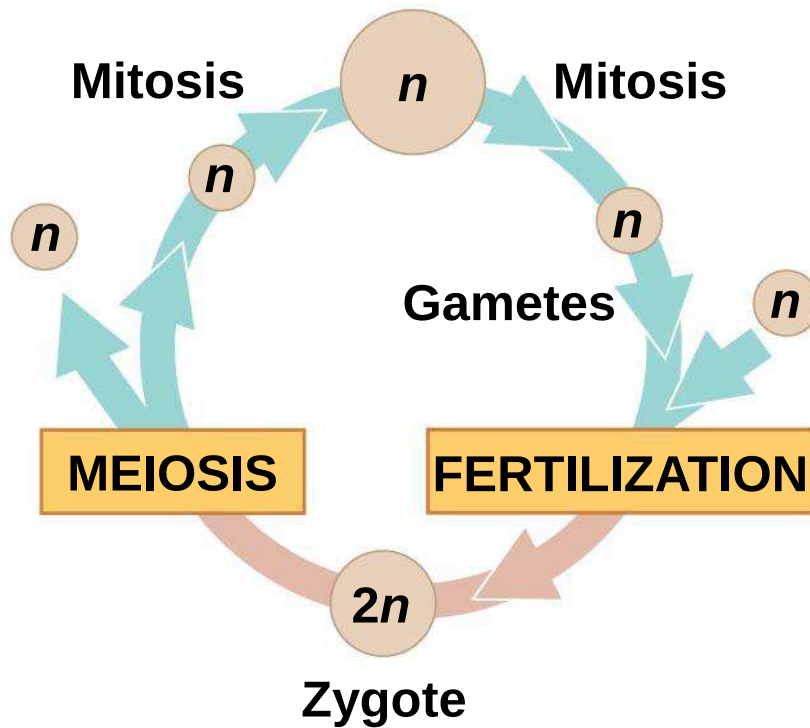
- **In most fungi and some protists**, the only diploid stage is the single-celled zygote; there is no multicellular diploid stage
- The zygote produces haploid cells by meiosis
- Each haploid cell grows by mitosis into a haploid multicellular organism
- The haploid adult produces gametes by mitosis

## Key

 Haploid

 Diploid

Haploid multicellular  
organism

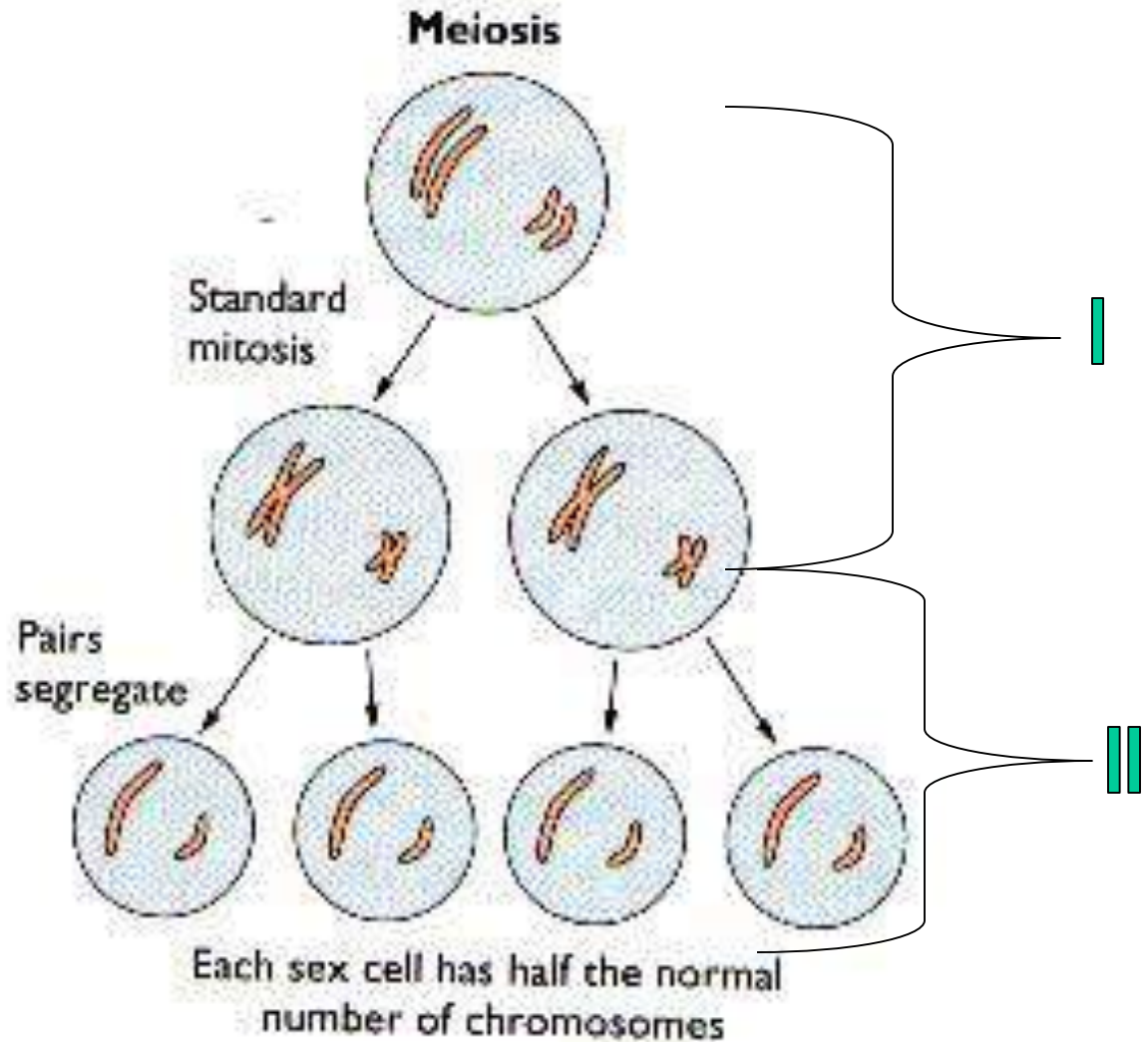


**(c) Most fungi and some protists**

# Meiosis takes place in 2 stages:

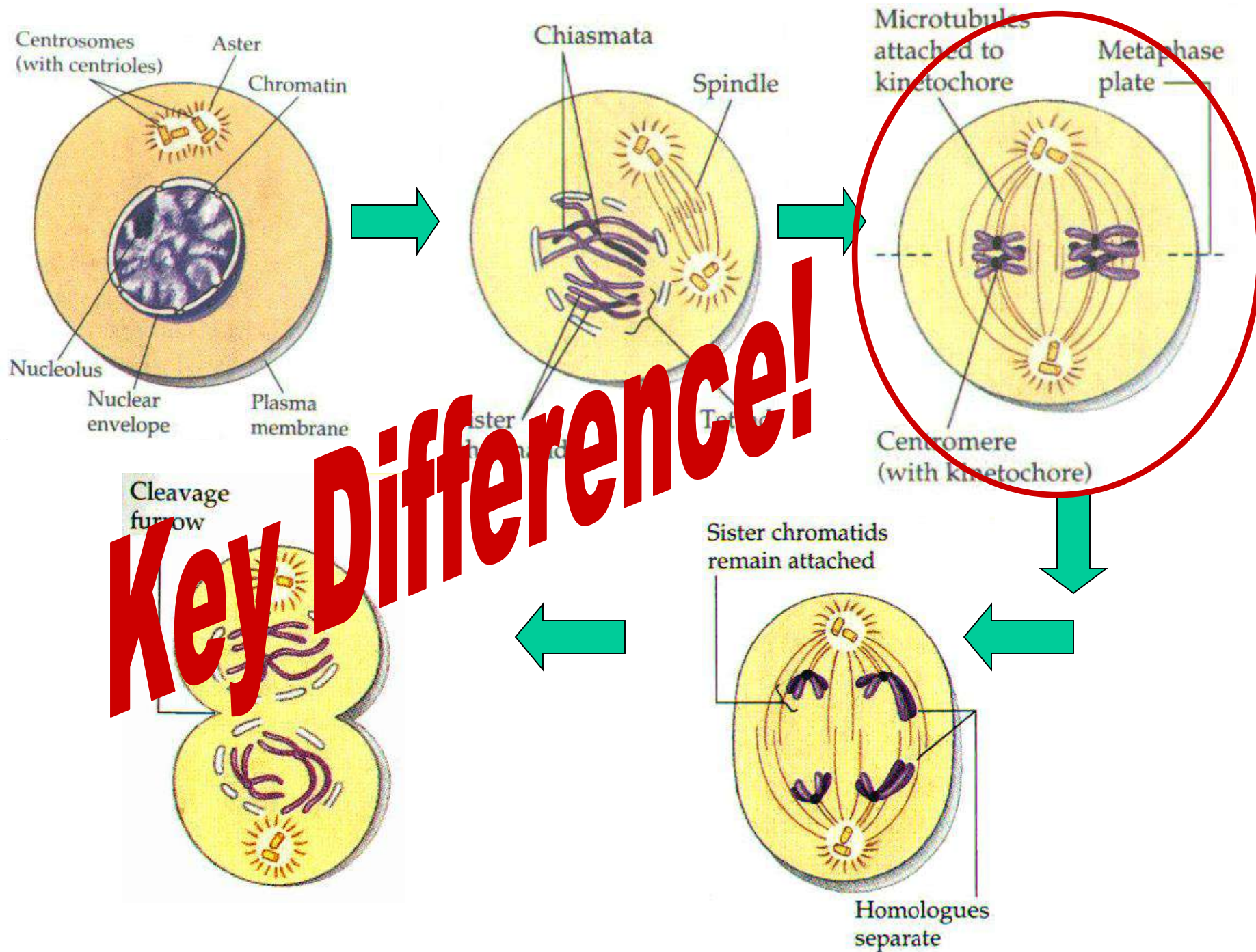
1) Meiosis I

2) Meiosis II



# 1) Meiosis I

- preceded by ***Interphase***: DNA is copied
- ***Prophase I***: each chromosome pairs up with its homologous chromosome to form a **TETRAD** (4 chromatids)
- ***Metaphase I***: tetrads line up in the center of the cell
- ***Anaphase I***: homologous chromosomes are pulled apart from one another
- ***Telophase I***

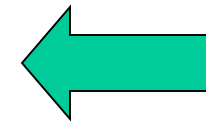
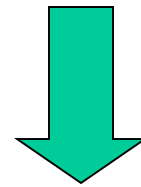
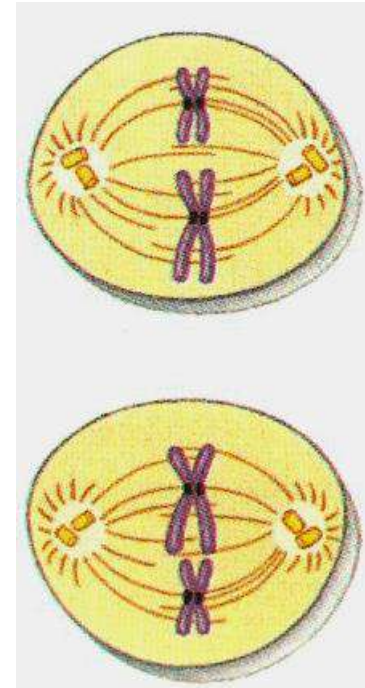
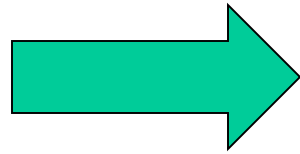
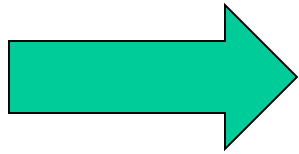


**\*no DNA replication  
occurs before the 2nd  
round of division**

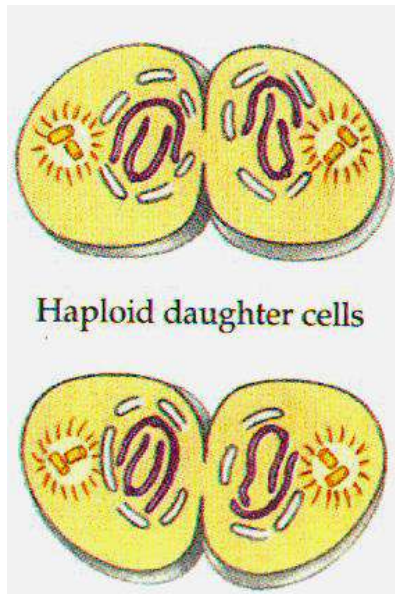
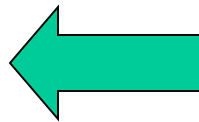
## **2) Meiosis II**

- the 2 cells produced in meiosis I undergo a second division (PMAT - II)
- the result: 4 haploid daughter cells!

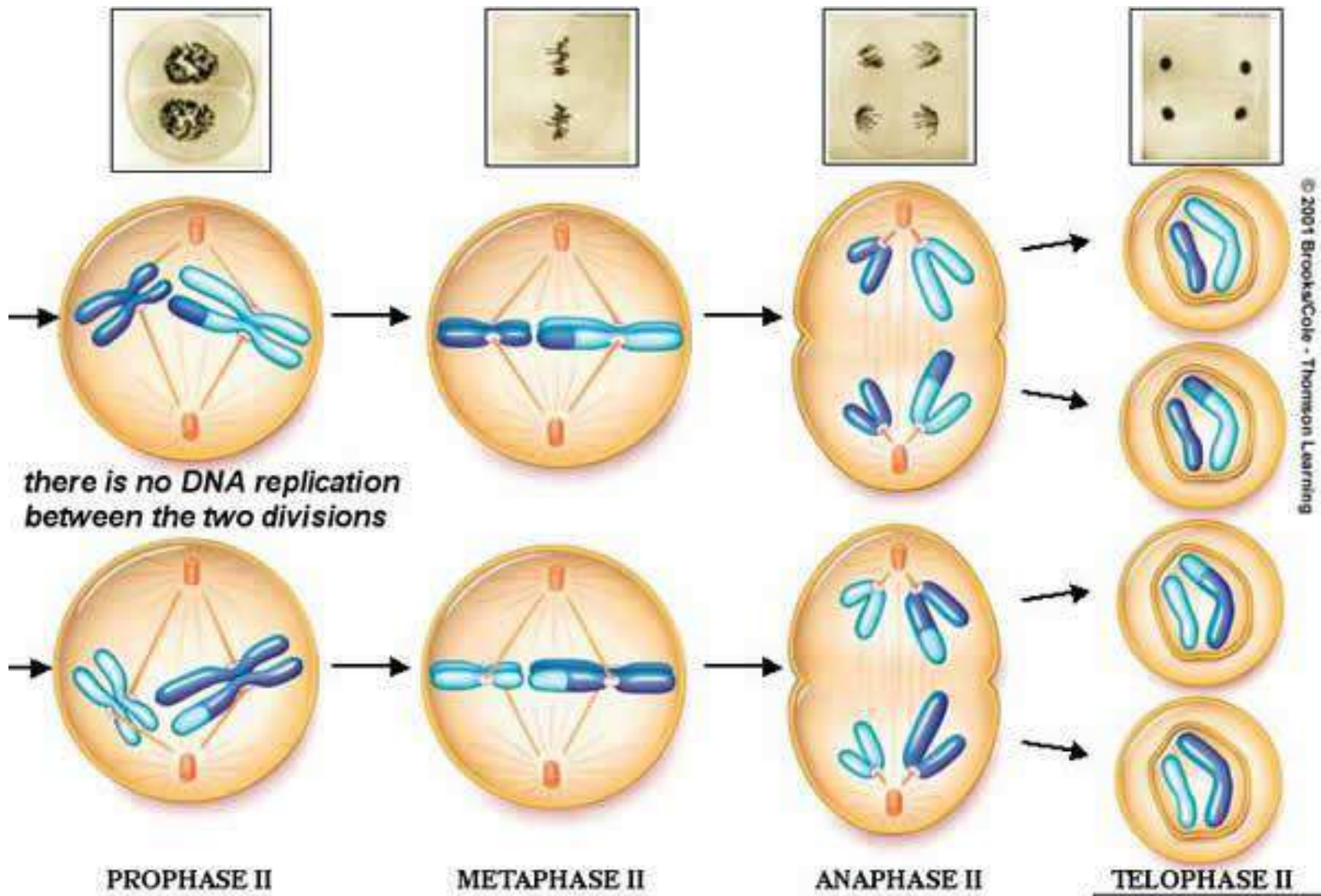




Sister  
chromatids separate

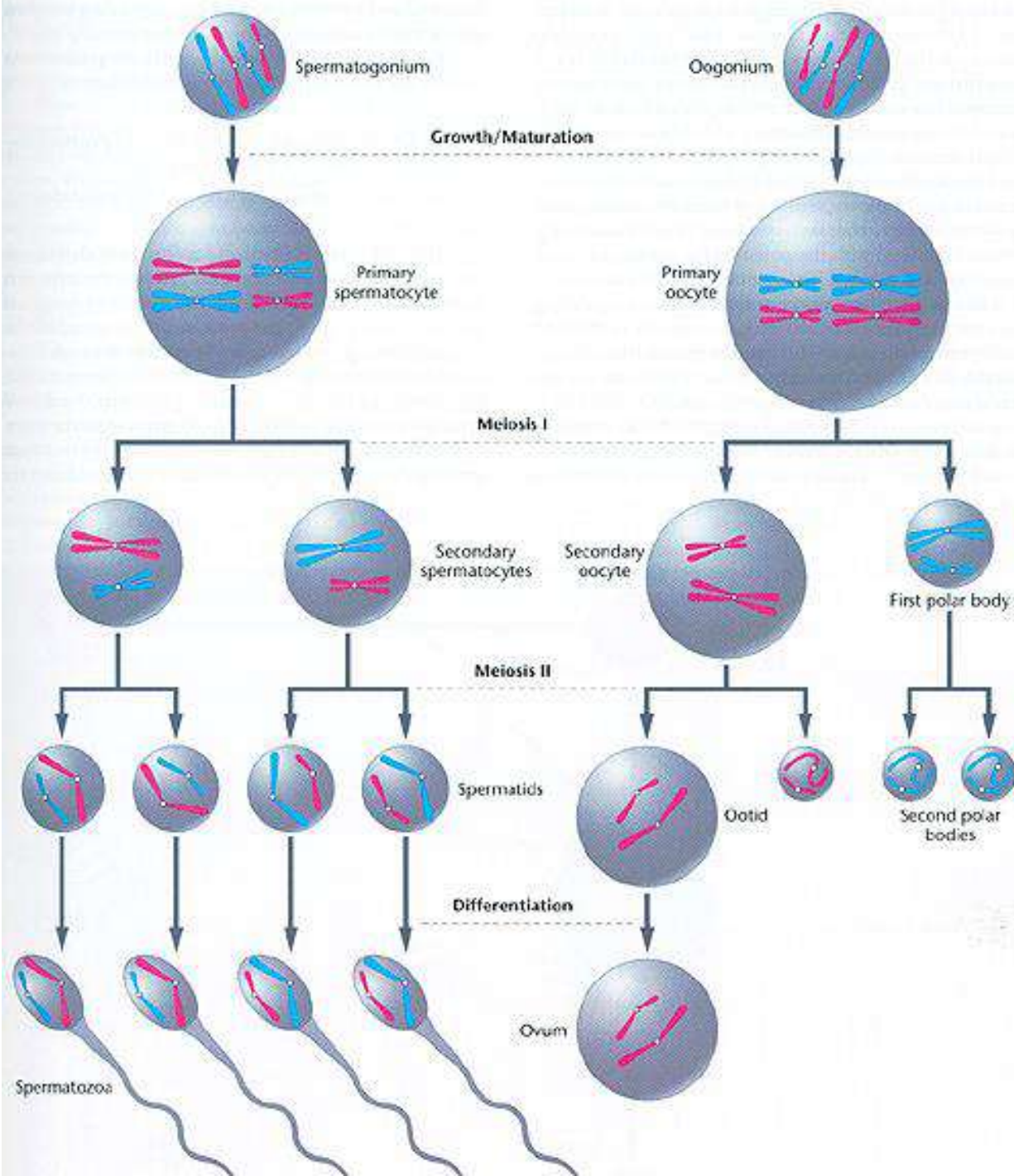


Haploid daughter cells



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**MEIOSIS II: Separate the Sister Chromatids (by mitosis)**

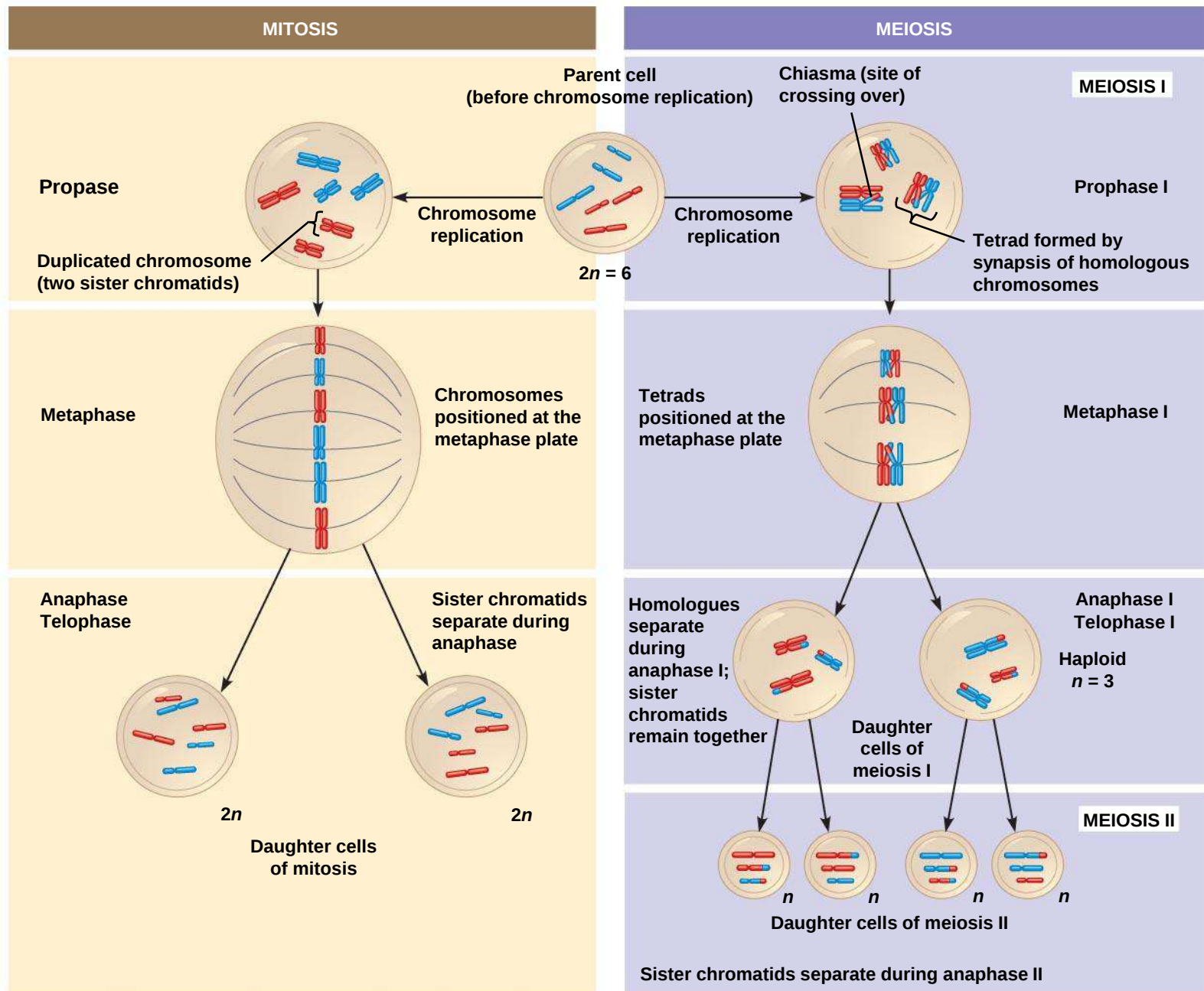


# A Comparison of Mitosis and Meiosis:

- Mitosis conserves the number of chromosome sets, producing cells that are genetically identical to the parent cell
- Meiosis reduces the number of chromosomes sets from two (diploid) to one (haploid), producing cells that differ genetically from each other and from the parent cell
- The mechanism for separating sister chromatids is virtually identical in meiosis II and mitosis

# Three events are unique to meiosis, and all three occur in meiosis I:

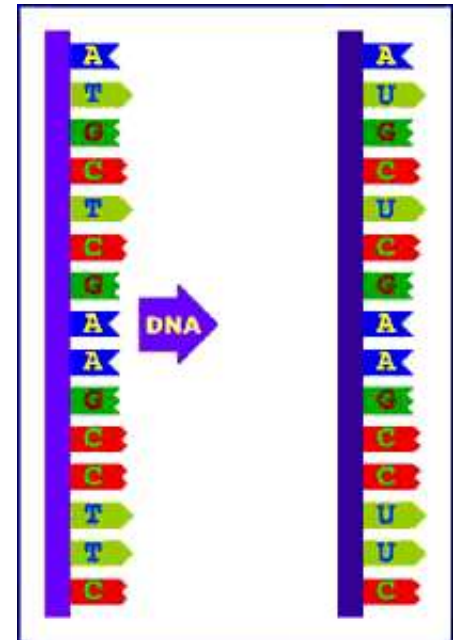
- 1) Synapsis and crossing over in prophase I:  
Homologous chromosomes physically connect and exchange genetic information
- 2) At the metaphase plate, there are paired homologous chromosomes (tetrads), instead of individual replicated chromosomes
- 3) At anaphase I, it is homologous chromosomes, instead of sister chromatids, that separate and are carried to opposite poles of the cell



| Property                            | Mitosis                                     | Meiosis                                                 |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| DNA replication                     | During interphase                           | During interphase                                       |
| Divisions                           | One                                         | Two                                                     |
| Synapsis and crossing over          | Do not occur                                | Form tetrads in prophase I                              |
| Daughter cells, genetic composition | Two diploid, identical to parent cell       | Four haploid, different from parent cell and each other |
| Role in animal body                 | Produces cells for growth and tissue repair | Produces gametes                                        |

# Genetic variation produced in sexual life cycles contributes to evolution

- Mutations (changes in an organism's DNA) are the original source of genetic diversity
- Mutations create different versions of genes
- Reshuffling of different versions of genes during sexual reproduction produces genetic variation



# Origins of Genetic Variation Among Offspring

- The behavior of chromosomes during meiosis and fertilization is responsible for most of the variation that arises in each generation
- Three mechanisms contribute to genetic variation:
  - 1) Independent assortment of chromosomes**
  - 2) Crossing over**
  - 3) Random fertilization**

# 1) Independent Assortment of Chromosomes

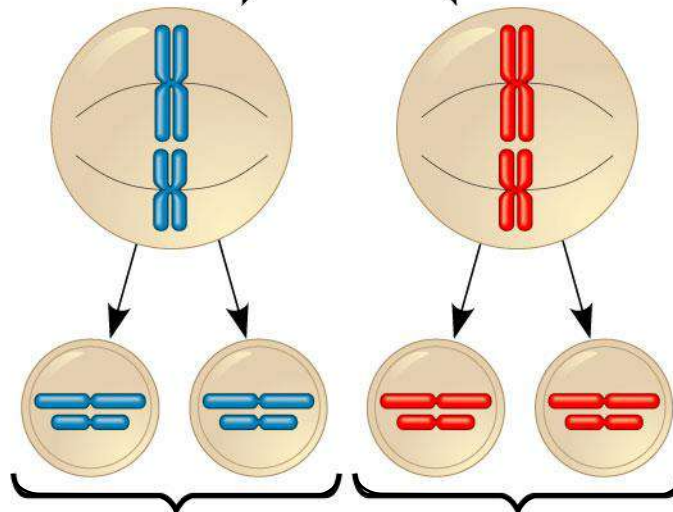
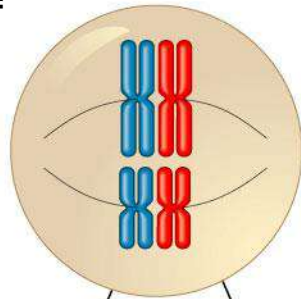
- Homologous pairs of chromosomes orient randomly at metaphase I of meiosis
- In independent assortment, **each pair** of chromosomes sorts maternal and paternal homologues into daughter cells independently of the other pairs
- The number of combinations possible when chromosomes assort independently into gametes is  $2^n$ , where  $n$  is the haploid number
- For humans ( $n = 23$ ), there are more than 8 million ( $2^{23}$ ) possible combinations of chromosomes!

## Key

 Maternal set of chromosomes

 Paternal set of chromosomes

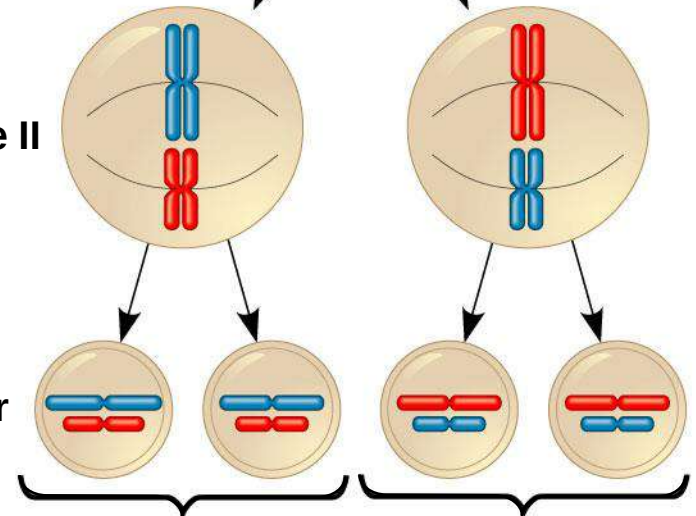
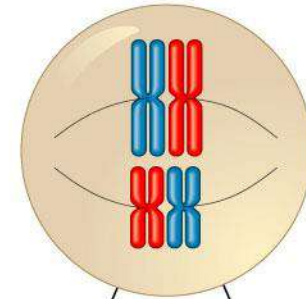
Possibility 1



Combination 1

Combination 2

Possibility 2



Combination 3

Combination 4

Two equally probable  
arrangements of  
chromosomes at  
metaphase I

Metaphase II

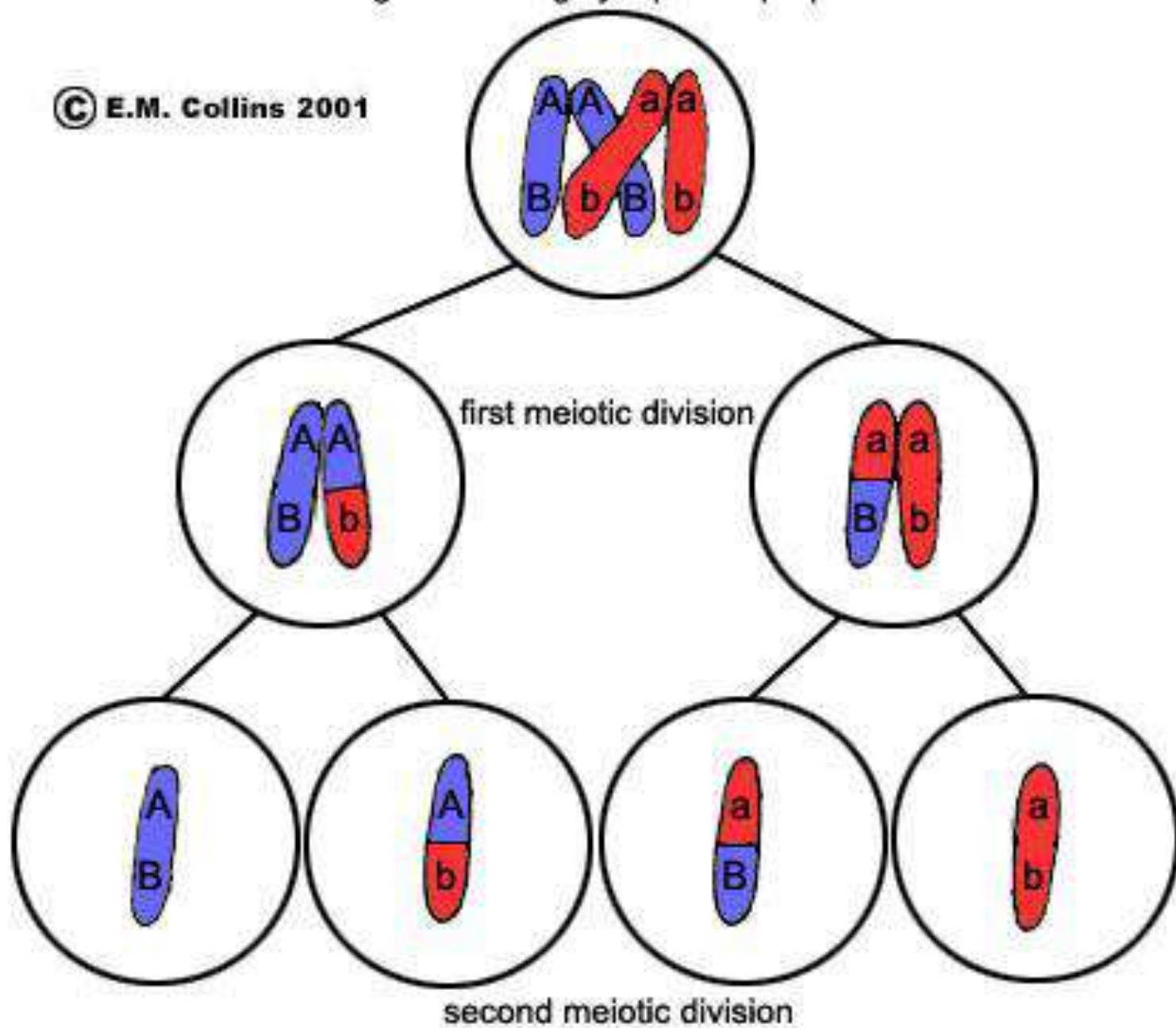
Daughter  
cells

## 2) Crossing Over

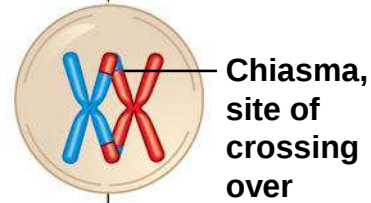
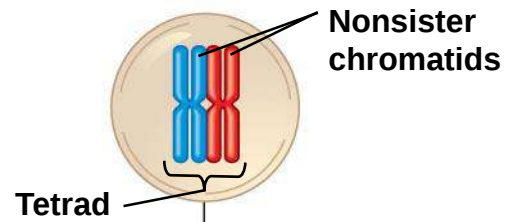
- Crossing over produces recombinant chromosomes, which combine genes inherited from each parent
- Crossing over begins very early in prophase I, as homologous chromosomes pair up gene by gene
- In crossing over, homologous portions of two nonsister chromatids trade places
- Crossing over contributes to genetic variation by combining DNA from two parents into a single chromosome

crossing over during synapsis of prophase I

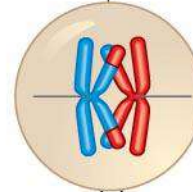
© E.M. Collins 2001



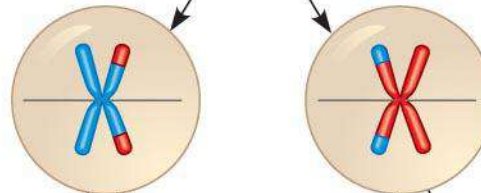
**Prophase I  
of meiosis**



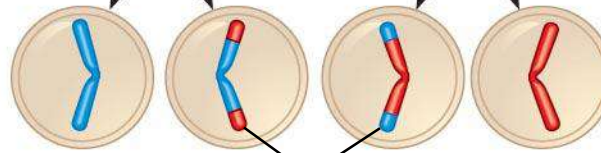
**Metaphase I**



**Metaphase II**

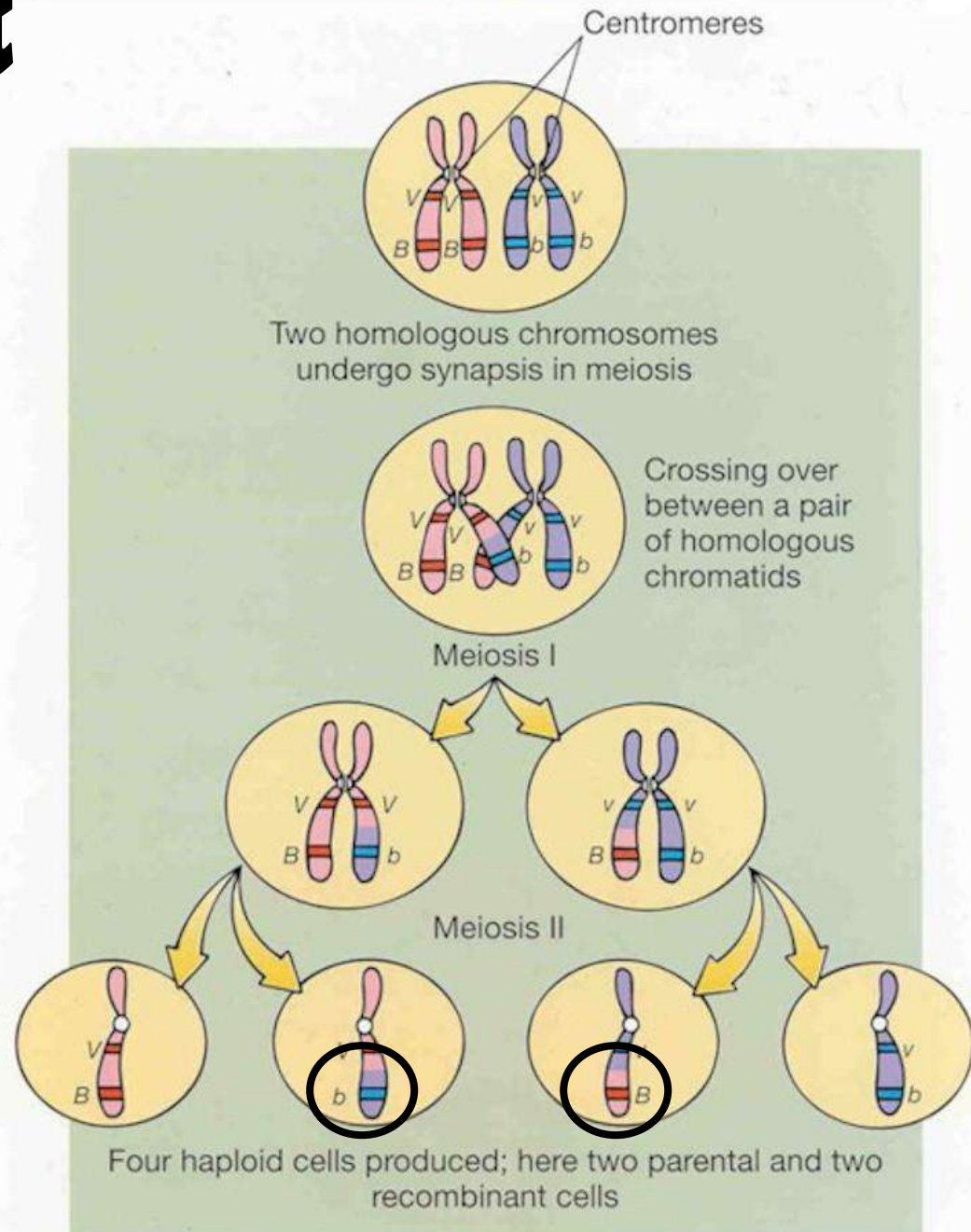


**Daughter cells**



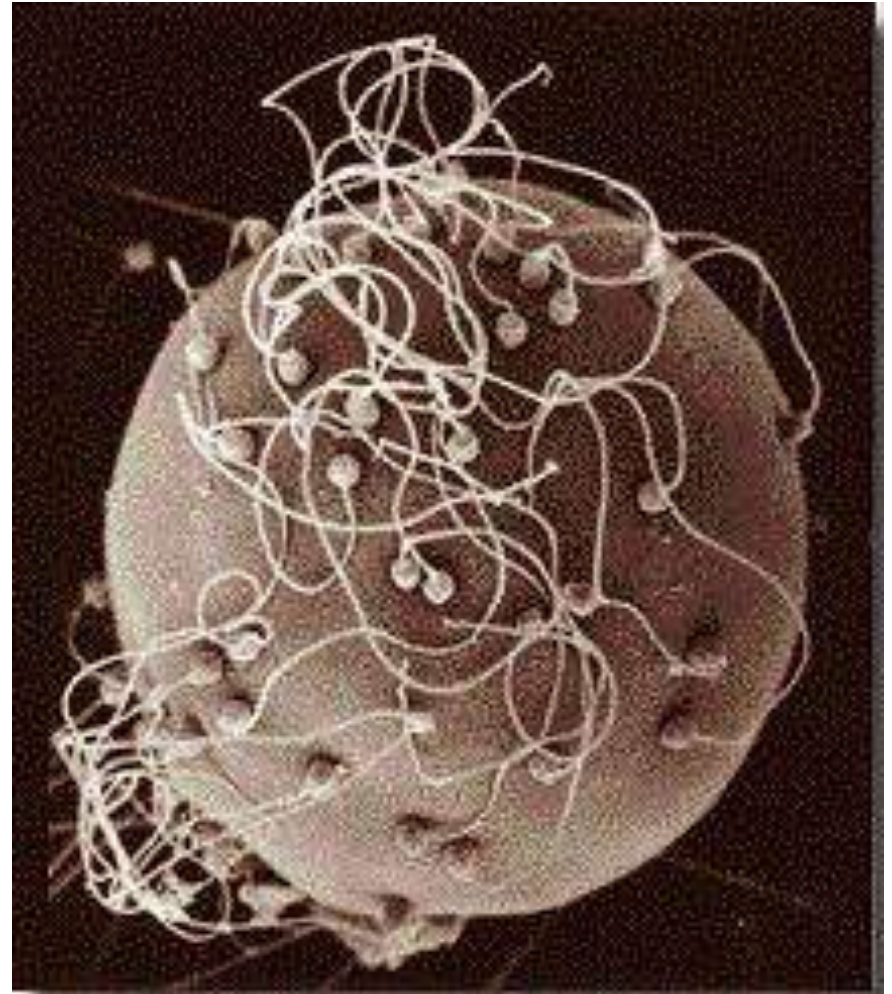
**Recombinant  
chromosomes**

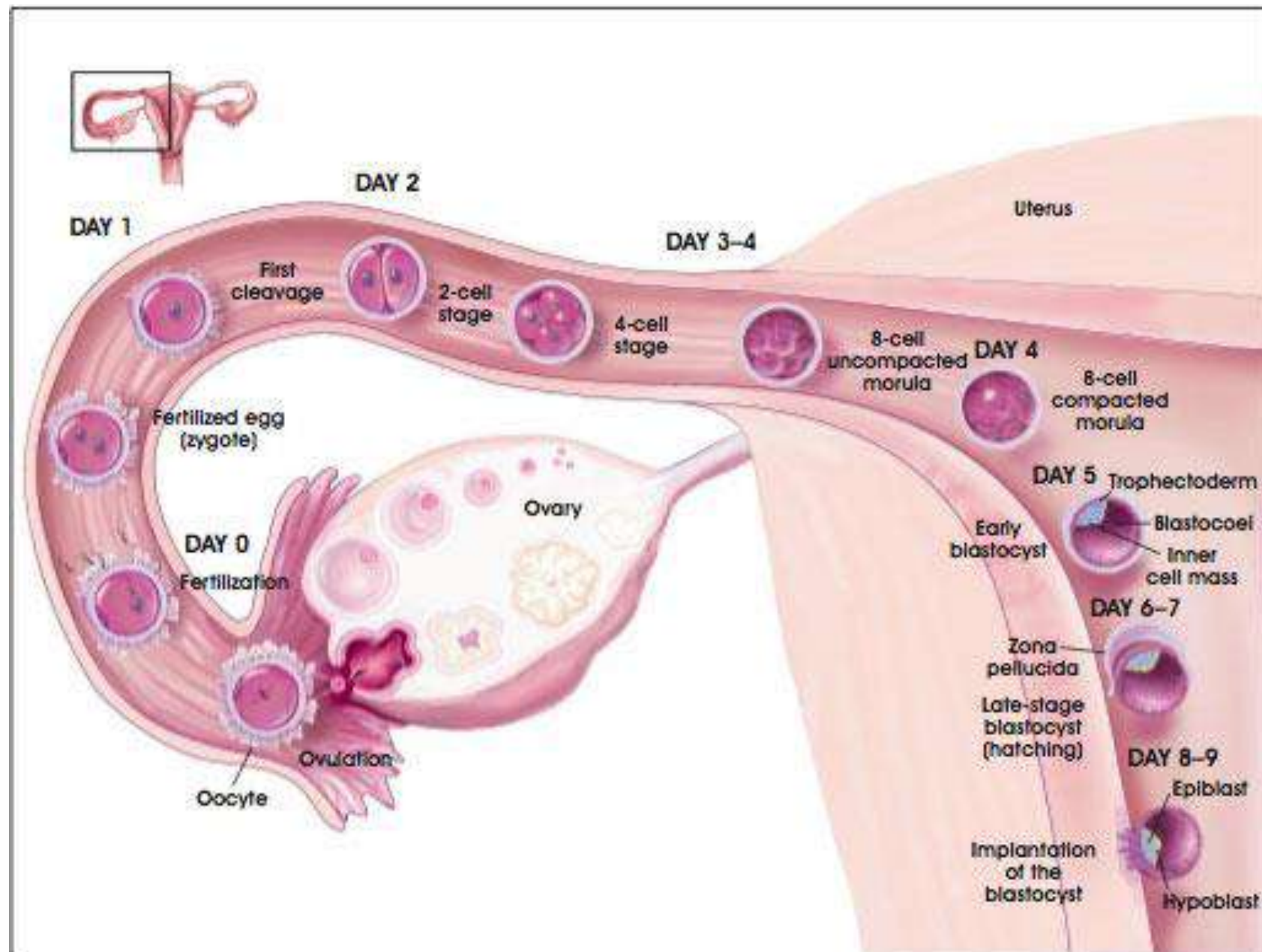
**4 different  
cells!**



### **3) Random Fertilization**

- Random fertilization adds to genetic variation because any sperm can fuse with any ovum (unfertilized egg)
- The fusion of gametes produces a zygote with any of about 64 trillion diploid combinations
- Crossing over adds even more variation
- Each zygote has a **unique genetic identity**





# Evolutionary Significance of Genetic Variation Within Populations

- Natural selection results in accumulation of genetic variations favored by the environment
- Sexual reproduction contributes to the genetic variation in a population, which ultimately results from mutations



