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Susan Freitas and Darren Parker: How does this all-female species reproduce? | TED Talk

https://www.ted.com/talks/susan_freitas_and_darren_parker_how_does_this_all_female_species_reproduce

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

stun

v. to make a person or an animal unconscious or dizzy, especially by hitting them on the head; to make someone surprised or shocked greatly

synonym : shock, amaze, astound

(1) **stun** fish, (2) **stun** an audience

This sprinter **stunned** the world with his speed.

lizard

n. a reptile that has a relatively long body, two pairs of legs, and a tapering tail

(1) giant **lizard**, (2) **lizard** leather

The **lizard's** tail regenerates if severed.

fertilize

v. to cause an egg, female animal, or plant to develop by joining sperm from the male with them; to add a natural or chemical substance to land to make plants grow well

synonym : pollinate, inseminate, enrich

(1) **fertilize** the soil, (2) **fertilize** the female egg

The couple decided to use the non-husband sperm to **fertilize** a wife.

asexual

adj. lacking sexual organs or characteristics; not involving or characterized by sexual activity; neither male nor female

in gender identity; not operating in a sexual manner or with sexual connotations

synonym : neutral, sexless, unisex

(1) **asexual** community, (2) **asexual** individual

Asexual reproduction is a common trait found in certain species of plants and animals.

parthenogenesis

n. a form of asexual reproduction in which an unfertilized egg develops into a new individual without the need for sperm, commonly found in some species of plants, invertebrates, and in rare cases, vertebrates

synonym : asexual reproduction, virgin birth, cloning

(1) **parthenogenesis** reproduction, (2) **parthenogenesis** in insects

Some species of lizards and insects are capable of **parthenogenesis**.

vertebrate

adj. relating to animals that have a backbone or spinal column, such as mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish

synonym : animal, chordate, backboned

(1) the muscle tissue of a **vertebrate**, (2) **vertebrate** biology

The presence of a backbone is a defining characteristic of **vertebrate** animals.

captivity

n. the situation in which a person or animal is kept in prison or a space that they cannot escape from

synonym : confinement, detention, imprisonment

(1) escape from **captivity**, (2) animals in **captivity** in the zoo

Pandas rarely breed in **captivity**.

slither

v. to move smoothly and sinuously, often close to the ground; to slide or crawl in a reptilian manner

synonym : slip, slide, glide

(1) **slither** about on my stomach, (2) **slither** up the tree

trunk

The poisonous snake began to **slither** away from the hikers as they stepped back in fear.

predator

n. an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others
synonym: vulture, bloodsucker

(1) apex **predator**, (2) sexual **predators**

The native South American animals were in danger because of the **predator's** arrival.

pea

n. a small, round, green vegetable that grows in pods on a climbing plant and is eaten as a vegetable

synonym: legume, bean, pulse

(1) **pea** protein, (2) **pea** family

She shelled the **peas** and added them to the pot.

aphid

n. a tiny insect that feeds on the sap of plants and can cause damage or diseases to plants, often found in large colonies

synonym: plant louse, greenfly, blackfly

(1) **aphid** infestation, (2) **aphid** control

The **aphids** were eating all the leaves of my tomato plants.

explode

v. to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open

synonym: detonate, blast, rupture

(1) **explode** in anger, (2) **explode** in popularity

The old building **exploded** in a fiery inferno.

katydid

n. a giant, green or brown grasshopper-like insect with long antennae and wings, known for its distinctive sound produced by rubbing its legs together

synonym: bush cricket, long-horned grasshopper

(1) **katydid** sound, (2) **katydid** habitat

The **katydid's** song filled the warm summer night.

gecko

n. a small to medium-sized lizard with soft, velvety skin, short legs, and adhesive pads on the feet that allow them to climb and walk along vertical surfaces

synonym: lizard, salamander, chameleon

(1) **gecko** habitat, (2) house **gecko**

I saw a **gecko** crawling on the wall of my bedroom.

hypothesize

v. to form or present a theory or explanation without sufficient evidence; to speculate

synonym: speculate, theorize, conjecture

(1) **hypothesize** as to outcomes, (2) **hypothesize** what could have happened

Scientists **hypothesize** that the new fish species evolved to survive in deep-sea environments.

shortcoming

n. a lack or deficiency in a particular respect; a fault or defect

synonym: deficiency, fault, weakness

(1) have a serious **shortcoming**, (2) the **shortcoming** in the system

The company's main **shortcoming** was a lack of innovation.

ratchet

n. a mechanical device with a toothed wheel that can rotate in only one direction used to transmit or control motion or to prevent backward movement

synonym: gear, wrench, spanner

(1) **ratchet** wrench, (2) **ratchet** effect

He turned the bolt with the **ratchet**, making sure it was secure.

lineage

n. the ancestry of a person, group, or species

synonym: ancestry, descent, heritage

(1) maternal **lineage**, (2) **lineage** tree

Scientists traced the **lineage** of the species back millions of years by studying fossils.

meltdown

n. a severe overheating of the core of a nuclear reactor resulting in the core melting and radiation escaping; a situation in which something fails or weakens suddenly or dramatically

synonym: collapse, disaster, failure

(1) **meltdown** disaster, (2) economic **meltdown**

The nuclear **meltdown** in the country was a disaster with far-reaching consequences.

unfold

v. to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown

synonym: open, spread out, expose

(1) **unfold** the story, (2) **unfold** the stroller

The mystery **unfolded** as the detectives gathered more clues.

circumvent

v. to go around, avoid, or bypass something, often to achieve an intended goal or objective; to outmaneuver or outsmart a person or obstacle

synonym: evade, bypass, outsmart

(1) **circumvent** rules, (2) **circumvent** authority

I took a back road to work on time to **circumvent** the traffic jam.

rot

v. to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually

synonym: perish, decay, corrode

(1) begin to **rot**, (2) **rot** with age

Please refrigerate the meat, or it will **rot**.

fungus

n. a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive

synonym: mold, mildew, yeast

(1) **fungus** infection, (2) symbiotic **fungus**

Certain types of **fungus** can be toxic to humans, causing severe illness if ingested.

algae

n. A simple plant that grows in or near water and lacks typical leaves and roots

(1) **algae** biofuel, (2) blue **algae**

Algae has jammed the inlet to the water turbine.

untangle

v. to separate or straighten out something that is tangled, confused, or complicated; to clarify or make sense of something difficult to understand or explain

synonym: disentangle, unravel, decipher

(1) **untangle** a situation, (2) **untangle** a problem

I need to **untangle** this knot before using this rope piece.

Session 2: Spelling

1. ra____t effect *n.* a mechanical device with a toothed wheel that can rotate in only one direction used to transmit or control motion or to prevent backward movement

2. giant li____d *n.* a reptile that has a relatively long body, two pairs of legs, and a tapering tail

3. par_____sis in insects *n.* a form of asexual reproduction in which an unfertilized egg develops into a new individual without the need for sperm, commonly found in some species of plants, invertebrates, and in rare cases, vertebrates

4. ex____e in popularity *v.* to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open

5. par_____sis reproduction *n.* a form of asexual reproduction in which an unfertilized egg develops into a new individual without the need for sperm, commonly found in some species of plants, invertebrates, and in rare cases, vertebrates

6. as____l individual *adj.* lacking sexual organs or characteristics; not involving or characterized by sexual activity; neither male nor female in gender identity; not operating in a sexual manner or with sexual connotations

ANSWERS: 1. ratchet, 2. lizard, 3. parthenogenesis, 4. explode, 5. parthenogenesis, 6. asexual

7. un_____le a situation *v.* to separate or straighten out something that is tangled, confused, or complicated; to clarify or make sense of something difficult to understand or explain
8. ka_____d sound *n.* a giant, green or brown grasshopper-like insect with long antennae and wings, known for its distinctive sound produced by rubbing its legs together
9. p_a protein *n.* a small, round, green vegetable that grows in pods on a climbing plant and is eaten as a vegetable
10. cir_____nt rules *v.* to go around, avoid, or bypass something, often to achieve an intended goal or objective; to outmaneuver or outsmart a person or obstacle
11. fe_____ze the soil *v.* to cause an egg, female animal, or plant to develop by joining sperm from the male with them; to add a natural or chemical substance to land to make plants grow well
12. house ge__o *n.* a small to medium-sized lizard with soft, velvety skin, short legs, and adhesive pads on the feet that allow them to climb and walk along vertical surfaces
13. ra_____t wrench *n.* a mechanical device with a toothed wheel that can rotate in only one direction used to transmit or control motion or to prevent backward movement

ANSWERS: 7. untangle, 8. katydid, 9. pea, 10. circumvent, 11. fertilize, 12. gecko, 13. ratchet

14. me_____wn disaster *n.* a severe overheating of the core of a nuclear reactor resulting in the core melting and radiation escaping; a situation in which something fails or weakens suddenly or dramatically
15. fu___s infection *n.* a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive
16. blue al__e *n.* A simple plant that grows in or near water and lacks typical leaves and roots
17. un_____le a problem *v.* to separate or straighten out something that is tangled, confused, or complicated; to clarify or make sense of something difficult to understand or explain
18. animals in ca_____ty in the zoo *n.* the situation in which a person or animal is kept in prison or a space that they cannot escape from
19. escape from ca_____ty *n.* the situation in which a person or animal is kept in prison or a space that they cannot escape from
20. the sho_____ng in the system *n.* a lack or deficiency in a particular respect; a fault or defect
21. have a serious sho_____ng *n.* a lack or deficiency in a particular respect; a fault or defect
22. li_____e tree *n.* the ancestry of a person, group, or species

ANSWERS: 14. meltdown, 15. fungus, 16. algae, 17. untangle, 18. captivity, 19. captivity, 20. shortcoming, 21. shortcoming, 22. lineage

23. hyp_____ze as to outcomes *v.* to form or present a theory or explanation without sufficient evidence; to speculate
24. apex pr_____or *n.* an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others
25. begin to r_t *v.* to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
26. maternal li_____e *n.* the ancestry of a person, group, or species
27. symbiotic fu____s *n.* a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive
28. ver_____te biology *adj.* relating to animals that have a backbone or spinal column, such as mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish
29. ge__o habitat *n.* a small to medium-sized lizard with soft, velvety skin, short legs, and adhesive pads on the feet that allow them to climb and walk along vertical surfaces
30. un____d the stroller *v.* to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown
31. al__e biofuel *n.* A simple plant that grows in or near water and lacks typical leaves and roots
32. the muscle tissue of a ver_____te *adj.* relating to animals that have a backbone or spinal column, such as mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish

ANSWERS: 23. hypothesize, 24. predator, 25. rot, 26. lineage, 27. fungus, 28. vertebrate, 29. gecko, 30. unfold, 31. algae, 32. vertebrate

42. p_a family *n.* a small, round, green vegetable that grows in pods on a climbing plant and is eaten as a vegetable
43. economic me_____wn *n.* a severe overheating of the core of a nuclear reactor resulting in the core melting and radiation escaping; a situation in which something fails or weakens suddenly or dramatically
44. sl_____r up the tree trunk *v.* to move smoothly and sinuously, often close to the ground; to slide or crawl in a reptilian manner
45. fe_____ze the female egg *v.* to cause an egg, female animal, or plant to develop by joining sperm from the male with them; to add a natural or chemical substance to land to make plants grow well
46. hyp_____ze what could have happened *v.* to form or present a theory or explanation without sufficient evidence; to speculate
47. s__n fish *v.* to make a person or an animal unconscious or dizzy, especially by hitting them on the head; to make someone surprised or shocked greatly
48. as_____l community *adj.* lacking sexual organs or characteristics; not involving or characterized by sexual activity; neither male nor female in gender identity; not operating in a sexual manner or with sexual connotations
49. s__n an audience *v.* to make a person or an animal unconscious or dizzy, especially by hitting them on the head; to make someone surprised or shocked greatly

ANSWERS: 42. pea, 43. meltdown, 44. slither, 45. fertilize, 46. hypothesize, 47. stun, 48. asexual, 49. stun

50. un___d the story

v. to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown

ANSWERS: 50. unfold

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Some species of lizards and insects are capable of _____.
n. a form of asexual reproduction in which an unfertilized egg develops into a new individual without the need for sperm, commonly found in some species of plants, invertebrates, and in rare cases, vertebrates
2. He turned the bolt with the _____ making sure it was secure.
n. a mechanical device with a toothed wheel that can rotate in only one direction used to transmit or control motion or to prevent backward movement
3. The poisonous snake began to _____ away from the hikers as they stepped back in fear.
v. to move smoothly and sinuously, often close to the ground; to slide or crawl in a reptilian manner
4. _____ has jammed the inlet to the water turbine.
n. A simple plant that grows in or near water and lacks typical leaves and roots
5. Pandas rarely breed in _____.
n. the situation in which a person or animal is kept in prison or a space that they cannot escape from
6. The native South American animals were in danger because of the _____ arrival.
n. an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others
7. Scientists _____ that the new fish species evolved to survive in deep-sea environments.
v. to form or present a theory or explanation without sufficient evidence; to speculate

ANSWERS: 1. parthenogenesis, 2. ratchet, 3. slither, 4. Algae, 5. captivity, 6. predator's, 7. hypothesize

8. The nuclear _____ in the country was a disaster with far-reaching consequences.
- n.* a severe overheating of the core of a nuclear reactor resulting in the core melting and radiation escaping; a situation in which something fails or weakens suddenly or dramatically
9. The mystery _____ as the detectives gathered more clues.
- v.* to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown
10. The _____ song filled the warm summer night.
- n.* a giant, green or brown grasshopper-like insect with long antennae and wings, known for its distinctive sound produced by rubbing its legs together
11. This sprinter _____ the world with his speed.
- v.* to make a person or an animal unconscious or dizzy, especially by hitting them on the head; to make someone surprised or shocked greatly
12. I need to _____ this knot before using this rope piece.
- v.* to separate or straighten out something that is tangled, confused, or complicated; to clarify or make sense of something difficult to understand or explain
13. The couple decided to use the non-husband sperm to _____ a wife.
- v.* to cause an egg, female animal, or plant to develop by joining sperm from the male with them; to add a natural or chemical substance to land to make plants grow well
14. I saw a _____ crawling on the wall of my bedroom.
- n.* a small to medium-sized lizard with soft, velvety skin, short legs, and adhesive pads on the feet that allow them to climb and walk along vertical surfaces

ANSWERS: 8. meltdown, 9. unfolded, 10. katydid's, 11. stunned, 12. untangle, 13. fertilize, 14. gecko

15. The _____ were eating all the leaves of my tomato plants.
n. a tiny insect that feeds on the sap of plants and can cause damage or diseases to plants, often found in large colonies
16. The presence of a backbone is a defining characteristic of _____ animals.
adj. relating to animals that have a backbone or spinal column, such as mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish
17. The old building _____ in a fiery inferno.
v. to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open
18. The _____ tail regenerates if severed.
n. a reptile that has a relatively long body, two pairs of legs, and a tapering tail
19. Scientists traced the _____ of the species back millions of years by studying fossils.
n. the ancestry of a person, group, or species
20. Certain types of _____ can be toxic to humans, causing severe illness if ingested.
n. a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive
21. Please refrigerate the meat, or it will _____.
v. to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
22. I took a back road to work on time to _____ the traffic jam.
v. to go around, avoid, or bypass something, often to achieve an intended goal or objective; to outmaneuver or outsmart a person or obstacle

ANSWERS: 15. aphids, 16. vertebrate, 17. exploded, 18. lizard's, 19. lineage, 20. fungus, 21. rot, 22. circumvent

23. She shelled the _____ and added them to the pot.

n. a small, round, green vegetable that grows in pods on a climbing plant and is eaten as a vegetable

24. _____ reproduction is a common trait found in certain species of plants and animals.

adj. lacking sexual organs or characteristics; not involving or characterized by sexual activity; neither male nor female in gender identity; not operating in a sexual manner or with sexual connotations

25. The company's main _____ was a lack of innovation.

n. a lack or deficiency in a particular respect; a fault or defect

ANSWERS: 23. peas, 24. Asexual, 25. shortcoming