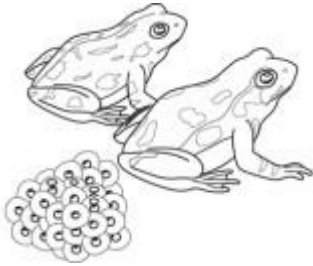


Internal and External fertilisation.

There are two types of fertilisation, internal and external.

Internal Fertilisation occurs inside the body where the human looks after the offspring as it develops. The advantage of this is that there is a good chance of a sperm meeting the egg and a baby developing.



External Fertilisation occurs outside of the body. The female frog produces many eggs so that there is a chance that some of these eggs will be fertilised. The frog does not look after its offspring. They develop independently.

The table below shows the average number of eggs released at one time.

Animal	Type of fertilisation	Number of eggs
Human	Internal	1
Cat	Internal	4
Frog	External	250
Dog	Internal	6
Trout	External	5000
Eagle	Internal	2

1. Compare the number of eggs for each animal. Describe the relationship between the type of fertilisation and number of eggs.

2. Why do you think a human needs only one egg at a time?

3. Why do you think a trout needs thousands of eggs?

4. Which of these animals look after their babies once they are born/hatched?

5. Why might this affect the number of eggs they have?

Extension

Turtles have internal fertilisation, but lay over 100 eggs at a time. They bury their eggs in a beach and then leave them. When the babies hatch they have to make their own way to the water.

Why do you think the turtle lays so many eggs?
