

Meiosis

Asexual reproduction does NOT involve the union of two cells

Higher organisms that reproduce sexually, need to have a special form of mitosis called meiosis take place

also called "*reduction division*" since the number of chromosomes in the sex cells is reduced by 1/2

in higher organisms there are two types of cells:

somatic (body) cells

reproductive (sex) cells

meiosis is necessary so that when the male and female cells unite to form what is called a '*zygote*' it receives the correct number of chromosomes

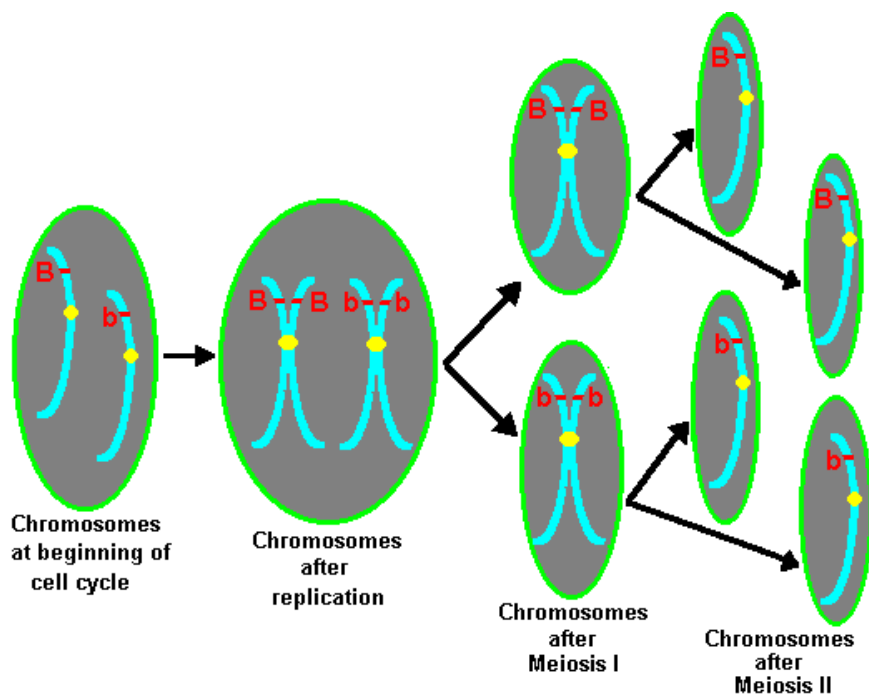
meiosis itself consists of two stages, meiosis I and meiosis II

1st stage reduces the number of chromosomes

2nd stage separates them into 4 sex cells

chromosomes are organised during the first stage into homologous pairs

each homologue contains one allele for each trait



Meiosis Web Resources

http://wps.prenhall.com/esm_freeman_biosci_1/0,6452,498784-,00.html



<http://www.johnkyrk.com/meiosis.html>



http://www.biostudio.com/d_%20Meiosis.htm

