

<b>CHAPTER 16</b>	<b>Thought Lab 16.2: Comparing Reproductive Strategies</b>	<b>BLM 16.4.8</b>
<b>HANDOUT</b>		
<b>Purpose:</b> Describe, analyze, and communicate the advantages and disadvantages of two different strategies.		

### Procedure

1. In small groups, select two organisms that have different forms of reproduction. You can select two organisms described in this textbook, or use a library or the Internet to select two organisms.
2. Write brief descriptions or draw simple diagrams to illustrate the life cycles of these organisms. Then brainstorm a list of potential advantages and disadvantages of each strategy. Try to think of the advantages and disadvantages for an individual organism and for the population as a whole.
3. Prepare a table or another form of concept organizer to present your findings.
4. Summarize your findings in a brief concluding statement. Then present your concluding statement to the class.

### Analysis

1. Did all groups come to similar conclusions? How could you account for any differences?
2. Is there one reproductive strategy that is clearly better than the others? Explain your answer.
3. Suppose that you wanted to create a new species (plant or animal) that would live in your classroom.
  - a) What form of reproduction would you choose for your species?

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**b)** Prepare a description or illustration that shows how the life cycle of your species works. Make sure that this life cycle can carry on over time.

**c)** Explain how the form of reproduction you chose would benefit your organism, given the environment in which it will exist.