

What Kids Wanna Know

Why do people get sexual feelings?

- From a scientific perspective, we have sexual feelings so at least some of us will want to have sex and make babies (reproduce). If we didn't, we humans would be extinct like the dinosaurs! But equally important, as humans these feelings come from our need for intimacy and connection with others. Sexual feelings are healthy at every age, and just because you have them, doesn't mean you have to act on them. We also know that satisfying sexual feelings by touching your own body in private (we call it masturbation) is healthy and normal. Some people don't have sexual feelings or just don't want to share their sexuality with others and that's just fine too.

Can a man have a baby?

- Being a "man" or "woman" is a feeling in your heart, we call it our "gender identity". Our gender identity has nothing to do with our ability to have a baby. The key to being able to grow a baby in your body is having a uterus. So, if a man has a uterus, and some do, there's a good chance they can!

Does it hurt to have a baby?

- Most people who have had a baby would say that it was a lot of hard work and that it was painful at times too. But the good news is that there are lots of ways that pregnant people can cope with the discomfort, like using relaxation techniques, getting support from a partner, close friend or family member, or asking for special medicine from the doctor or midwife. And they get to hold a beautiful baby at the end of their hard work! Think of it this way...if it hurt so much to have a baby, would anyone have more than one? No way!



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How do you put a condom on the penis?

- A condom comes rolled up inside a sealed package, and it's rolled onto a hard (erect) penis. Condoms come with good directions, but it's important to practice putting them on before using them. There are several steps to putting a condom on properly so that it has the best chance of preventing pregnancy or the spread of a sexually transmitted infection (STI).

Where do you buy them?

- Usually at a drugstore or grocery store, somewhere that sells reputable brands and doesn't keep them on the shelf for years because they expire. For example, I wouldn't suggest that someone buy condoms from a machine in the airport bathroom!

Is it embarrassing to buy condoms?

- It shouldn't be. If someone is old enough and mature enough to have sex, buying condoms is just one of the responsibilities that comes with that. If someone, at any age, felt uncomfortable buying condoms they might want to check in with themselves as to why that is. Are they worried someone will see them? Are they going against their family rules or beliefs? Do they feel shameful or embarrassed? Or is it just that society has taught us that we *should* feel shame and embarrassment about having sex? All of those questions are important to answer.

