Jellyfish

While jellyfish can reproduce sexually, they also can reproduce asexually. “In this larval stage of jellyfish life, the planula hooks on to the bottom of a smooth rock or other structure and grows into another stage of jellyfish life, the polyp--which resembles a miniature sea anemone. During this stage, which can last for several months or years, asexual reproduction occurs. The polyps clone themselves and bud, or strobilate, into another stage of jellyfish life, called ephyra. It is this form that grows into the adult medusa jellyfish,” according to scientificamerican.com. This process uses mitosis.

For more information on how asexual reproduction and mitosis work, see Unit 2, section 16.3 of the 7th Grade Master Notebook.





Sea Anemone

Sea Anemone’s can reproduce sexually, but also asexually. “With asexual reproduction, the offspring are genetically identical to the original parent. Asexual reproduction allows for larger numbers of individual offspring to be produced more quickly with less energy expenditure as compared to sexual reproduction; n stable marine environments this is a reliable, efficient and effective means of reproduction. However, this lack of genetic diversity in offspring could collapse an entire population of genetically identical animals if environmental pressures were to swing too far from tolerable conditions. On the other hand, rapid rates of asexual reproduction allows for faster responses to environmental pressures as they are occurring and could raise the rate of survival if individual offspring develop genetic mutations during mitosis,” according to reefs.com.

For more information on how asexual reproduction and mitosis work, see Unit 2, section 16.3 of the 7th Grade Master Notebook.





Onion

Like many plants, onions can reproduce asexually. “Cuttings can be taken from existing plants, and can be grafted onto the stock of another plant…(using bulbs) underground food storage organs with fleshy leaves that store food and can grow and develop into new plants, like onions and garlic. Humans are able to make plants reproduce asexually by artificial propagation. Taking cuttings and grafting are two methods for artificially propagating large numbers of genetically identical plants,” according to bbc.co.uk. The process will then use mitosis to reproduce cells.

For more information on how asexual reproduction and mitosis work, see Unit 2, section 16.3 of the 7th Grade Master Notebook.



 

Amoeba

Amoebas reproduce asexually. “Unlike higher forms of life, amoebas do not need another individual's genetic material to reproduce. The nucleus of each cell contains the amoeba's genetic material. First, the genetic material replicates. Then the nucleus divides. This is called mitosis. Finally, the cytoplasm and outer membrane split in two. Each half contains a nucleus. The separate halves pull apart. Each new cell contains genetic material that is identical to the original. This process is called binary fission…One of their arguments is that evolutionary theory shows that asexual reproduction is disadvantageous because it does not allow individuals to mix their genetic material with others. This means they cannot develop new characteristics that may be more suited to a changed environment. Species that reproduce only asexually should theoretically be short lived, yet the amoeba living today represent an ancient lineage,” according to sciencing.com.

For more information on how asexual reproduction and mitosis work, see Unit 2, section 16.3 of the 7th Grade Master Notebook.





Hydra

Hydras reproduce asexually. “1: a bud begins to form on the tubular body of an adult Hydra. 2: The bud develops a mouth and tentacles. 3: The bud detaches from its parent. 4: The new Hydra is fully developed and will find its own location for attachment…hydra can regrow a lost head or foot or both…Hydra do not show any signs of senescence (the process of aging) as long as they reproduce asexually,” according to devbio.biology.gatech.edu. They use the process of mitosis to reproduce and/or regenerate cells.

For more information on how asexual reproduction and mitosis work, see Unit 2, section 16.3 of the 7th Grade Master Notebook.





Strawberries

Strawberries can reproduce sexually, but they also reproduce asexually through self-pollination. “Strawberry plants reproduce **asexually through their stolons**, also known as "runners". As the stolons grow out across the ground, they periodically form structures called "nodes". These nodes will attempt to grow roots into the soil. If a rooting attempt is successful, a new plant crown will grow above the roots and a new daughter strawberry plant will be formed… When strawberry plants reproduce asexually, the resulting **daughter plants are clones** of the original ("mother") plant. Thus, the daughter plants are genetically identical to each other and to the mother plant. **This is extremely useful for agriculture**, since it allows farmers and gardeners to choose plants that are known to do well in specific growing conditions…Because of this, most strawberry plants began to be commercially produced by allowing stolons to root, then transplanting the daughter plants. **Today, new plants for commercial use are instead grown primarily from "clippings"** of specific parts of strawberry plants. Nevertheless, the basic idea of maintaining plant predictability by producing and using clone daughter plants still applies,” according to strawberriesforstrawberrylovers.com. They use the process of mitosis to reproduce cells.

For more information on how asexual reproduction and mitosis work, see Unit 2, section 16.3 of the 7th Grade Master Notebook.



