# HomeFront.

Teach, Empower and Enjoy Your Children.

## A.R.T. - Children's Needs Come First How Children Grow Best

Think back to Unit 6, Both Moms and Dads Matter. Do you remember the example about the plant and what it needs to grow?

In order for a plant to grow correctly it needs both water and sunlight. In our example, we discussed how children are like the plant, and their mom and their dad are like water and sunlight. Children need their mother and father just like a plant needs both water and sunlight. Again, as we learned in Unit 6, having more water does not change the plant's need for



Photo credit: <u>http://www.greenhomegnome.com/wp-</u> content/up/bads/2014/09/greenhouse-seeds-seedlings.jpg

sunlight, just like a child is not okay with any two people raising them: the child wants - and needs - their own biological mother and father to care for them.

#### Hangman Activity:

Try out this hangman style game to learn some of the benefits children have from knowing and being raised by their biological parents.

Have fun!

#### CONTINUED DISCUSSION FOR OLDER CHILDREN:

Throughout this unit we will take a look into the many harms that Assisted Reproductive Technologies (ART) can cause children when their fundamental need for their biological parents is disregarded.

So, what are assisted reproductive technologies?

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Assisted reproductive technologies are any process where the egg, or eggs, of the woman are surgically removed from her body, the sperm collected from a man, and where the egg and sperm collected are combined in a laboratory to create an embryo. Explained simply, assisted reproductive technologies involve anything that changes how a child is naturally conceived between a husband and a wife.



In some cases, a husband and a wife are able to overcome infertility, or the inability to have children, through the use

of assisted reproductive technologies. Using assisted reproductive technologies can be a good thing. However, sometimes through their efforts to overcome infertility, people can harm themselves and even others, or put their need for a child before the child's need for its biological, married parents.

As we progress through this unit, we will learn more about the different harms of assisted reproductive technologies, but here are a few of the ways people cause unintentional harm to others through assisted reproductive technologies:

- Putting the needs of adults before the needs of the children
- Denying the child their biological parents, either the mother or the father sometimes both.
- Increasing the risk of harm to the baby
- Increasing risk of harm to the woman who donates the eggs, or the birth mother who carries the baby in surrogacy.