

Name _____

The Fascinating World of Vascular Plant Reproduction

Short Answer Key

1. Pollination is the transfer of pollen from the male stamen to the female stigma of a flower, enabling fertilization and seed production.
2. Vegetative propagation occurs when new plants arise from specialized vegetative structures such as runners, rhizomes, bulbs, tubers, or cuttings. An example is strawberries producing runners that develop into new plants.
3. Fragmentation is the process of breaking off a portion of the parent plant, which then develops into a new individual. This contributes to asexual reproduction in certain vascular plants with creeping or trailing growth habits.
4. Spores are tiny, single-celled structures produced in sporangia of certain vascular plants like ferns and mosses. When dispersed, spores can germinate to form new gametophyte or sporophyte plants.
5. Genetic variation contributes to the adaptation and evolution of vascular plants, allowing them to better respond to environmental changes and challenges.

