

# My Beginnings: A Very Special Story.

By Tim Appleton

Sample pages from Book and CD-Rom

*My Beginnings* is a story about a couple who badly want a child and have to resort to IVF to fulfill their dreams. Full of colorful illustrations it appeals to the younger child.

This is a children's book for IVF parents, with full colorful art work; the package comes with a CD-ROM using IVF information, videos, animation, and graphics.

The story is based on the view that our bodies are made up of millions of cells - like building blocks - and some of these cells make babies. As children grow older they will may ask questions but these will be based on the happy story that they have been told - they may seek further information or want to explore the technology for themselves.

The author has over 20 years of experience in infertility counselling and worked with Patrick Steptoe and Robert Edwards, the pioneers of IVF.

Experience from adoption suggests that children from 3 to 6 can accept a simple happy story without adding the complications which adults think are there .

Material on the CD-ROM iexplores the more technical side of the treatments involved and includes video footage gained through the help of many clinics throughout the world.The third addition, which includes new art work designed by Maria Stringer, is packaged with the CD-ROM It is a resource for both parents and children..

This book has been completely revised to take into account advances in Assisted Reproductive Medicine. By a simple substitution of 2 pages 8 different treatment options can be covered: IVF, IVF + Donor Sperm, IVF + Donor Eggs, IVF + Donor Embryos, ICSI, Frozen Embryos, AIH and DI. See instructions

ISBN 1 37663 03 X 3rd Edition with CD-Rom (PC & MAC)

31 Pages (21cm x 10.7cm) full colour art work: ~ <http://www.mybeginnings.org>

1



All their friends had families:  
Children, babies and more babies!

They tried all sorts of things to make them happy  
What could they do?

3



Once upon a time Mummy and Dady were alone  
They had no babies or children to love.

2

So they went to see a doctor - was there something wrong with them?  
Why couldn't they have a baby?

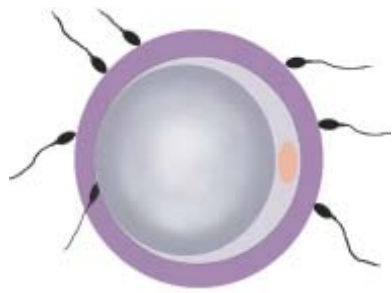
The doctor said that she knew a special hospital who might be able to help them.



In that hospital were lots of doctors, scientists and nurses who knew a lot about how babies are made.

They listened very carefully to what Mummy and Daddy had to tell tem, and then they examined us very carefully to try and find out what was wrong. They told us they would try very hard to help us have a baby.

4



The embryologist put some of Daddy's sperm cells with Mummy's eggs in a little dish.

Two days later .....

they looked down the microscope and saw that, instead of one cell, there were now two cells



A very tiny embryo had been made!



You really were there, and you were beginning to grow, first into two cells, then into four,

Until you were big enough for the doctors put to you into Mummy's uterus so that you could grow even more !

Thirty five days later the doctors were able to look into Mummy's tummy with a special camera called an ultra-sound scanner.

They saw that you really were there and that you were slowly growing from an embryo into a baby, that you were in the right place, and that your heart was beating.

Everone was so happy!



We wanted to sing and dance for Joy!

## The CD-ROM



The CD-ROM includes the story "*I'm A Little Frostie*" which tells the story of an embryo which was frozen and thawed and became a baby. It is richly illustrated to explain how and why an embryo had to be frozen.

The CD-Rom has an extensive illustrated glossary of Assisted Reproductive Technology, Graphics and Videos. It is a valuable resource which can be used by patients undergoing treatment, parents who wish to prepare themselves for reading the story to their children and for the older child who might want to explore the modern miracle of Assisted Reproductive Medicine which played such an important part in their history.

The author suggests that the happy stories are told to children at a very early age with the CD-Rom providing additional material for the older child.