# CHROMOSOMES, GENES AND DNA

Don't give out booklet until first activity is completed!

## BACK TO BACK ACTIVITY

• Pupils sit back to back. Pupil 1 describes picture and pupil 2 draws.



#### DNA the molecule of life

DINA

- Trillions of cells Each cell:
- 46 liuman chromosomes
- 2 meters of DNA
- 3 billion DNA subunits (the bases: A, T, C, G)
  - Approximately 30,000 genes code for proteins that perform most life functions

diromosomes

protein

gene

cell

261 255

## journey into your genes

 <u>http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/gen</u> <u>ome/dna\_flash.html</u>

# what is DNA?

•<u>http://learn.genetics.utah.edu/conten</u> <u>t/begin/tour/</u>



## DEFINITIONS

- **Chromosomes** are genetic structures found in the nucleus of a cell.
- They are made of DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) and occur as functional pairs except in sex cells (sperm and eggs).
- Genes are short sections of chromosomes that operate as functional units to control characteristics. Genes are short lengths of DNA.
- There are hundreds of genes contained in a chromosome.



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## DNA STRUCTURE

DNA is made up of units called nucleotides which contain:

A deoxyribose sugar

A phosphate group

•A base



#### **A NUCLEOTIDE**



- Nucleotides join together to form long chains.
- Two chains are joined together by their bases.
- The two chains run in opposite directions (antiparallel).



#### What do you notice about the bases?

## **DNA Structure**

#### There are four types of bases

- Adenine
- Thymine
- Cytosine
- Guanine



DNA Double Helix

### **DNA Structure**

Adenine binds with Thymine
Guanine binds with Cytosine

I go to school <u>AT G</u>lenlola
 <u>C</u>ollegiate





- The two chains run in opposite directions (antiparallel).
- The DNA chains twist to form a

#### double helix

• Build a DNA model animation

## How does DNA work?

- DNA provides a code which allows the cell to make protein.
- The most common proteins that the DNA makes are **enzymes**.
- By making enzymes DNA controls the development of the cell.

## How does DNA work?

- The bases along one side of the DNA molecule form the genetic code.
- Each sequence of three bases is called a base triplet.
- Each base triplet codes for an amino acid - which are the building blocks of protein.

#### Base triplets code for amino acids









https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VegLVn\_1oCE

Frankling John John Ling Traing

Plater



**ERWIN CHARGAFF** discovered that there was a relationship between the number of bases in the DNA which he was studying. His results are in the table below.

What does this suggest about the bases?

BASE	PERCENTAGE
Adenine	30
Cytosine	20
Gaunine	20
Thymine	30

#### Who discovered DNA?

• Cut and paste





**Erwin Chargaff** 



Rosalind Franklin



Maurice Wilkins



James Watson



**Francis Crick** 

#### Who discovered DNA?

Discovered there are equal numbers of A&T and of G&C

Used X-ray diffraction to find the overall structure of DNA

Used molecular modelling to deduce that A always pairs with T and C always pairs with G

Used molecular modelling to deduce DNA is a double helix



#### **Erwin Chargaff**

#### Discovered there are equal numbers of A&T and of G&C



**Rosalind Franklin** 

**Maurice Wilkins** 

Used X-ray diffraction to find the overall structure of DNA



#### **James Watson**

#### **Francis Crick**

Used molecular modelling to deduce that A always pairs with T and C always pairs with G

Used molecular modelling to deduce DNA is a double helix

#### **Development of the scientific theory of the structure of DNA**



The scientific paper published by Watson and Crick in Nature magazine in 1951 and the model that they built was the result of scientists sharing their scientific knowledge.

# The scientific theory of the structure of DNA was developed in stages, with **input from a number of different lines of evidence**.

The theory was **validated by peer review**. Scientists working in this field reviewed the scientific paper and the model.

This is an example of the **collaborative nature of science**.

#### **Complete Exam Questions**



EXAM QUESTIONS

#### Exam questions

The diagram shows one strand of a DNA molecule.



- a) Copy and complete the diagram by drawing the missing strand. (1 mark)
- b) Name the two chemicals that make up the backbone. (2 marks)
- c) Describe the three-dimensional shape of DNA. (1 mark)
- <sup>2</sup> The diagram below shows the 3D structure of DNA, which was discovered by Watson and Crick.



- a) Name two other scientists who made a discovery about the 3D structure of DNA.
   (2 marks)
- b) If there were 18 of these structures along a coding strand of DNA how many amino acids would they code for? (1 mark)
- **3 a)** The diagram shows how DNA codes for amino acids.



- coding strand DNA
  - i) Give the names of the missing bases 1, 2 and 3. (1 mark)
  - ii) Use the diagram and your knowledge to calculate how many bases would be required to produce 30 amino acids.
     (1 mark)
  - **b)** Franklin and Wilkins showed that the arrangement of DNA resembled a ladder structure although they did not know how the pieces were linked.
    - i) Describe **two** further advances that Watson and Crick added to our understanding of the structure of DNA and name the process they used.

(3 marks)

 ii) Name one other scientist who added to our knowledge of DNA and describe his/her contribution. (2 marks)



http://youtu.be/zwibgNGe4aY