

PLANIT Decoding DNA Sequences and Gene Expression Basics

Introduction to DNA Structure and Function

Welcome to the world of genetics! In this section, we will introduce you to the fascinating world of DNA sequencing and gene expression. You will learn about the structure and function of DNA, how genes are expressed, and the significance of genetic variation.

- 1. What is DNA, and what is its role in our bodies?
- 2. Draw a simple diagram of the DNA double helix structure.
- 3. What are the four nucleotide bases found in DNA?

Activity 1: DNA Model Building

Build a model of the DNA double helix using different materials, such as paper clips, straws, or beads. Label the nucleotide bases and explain their roles in DNA structure.

Group Task:

Work in groups to build and present your DNA model. Discuss the following questions:

- What are the advantages and limitations of your model?
- How does your model represent the structure and function of DNA?

Gene Expression Basics
In this section, we will explore the process of gene expression and its significance in genetics. You will learn about transcription, translation, and the role of RNA in gene expression.
1. What is gene expression, and how does it occur?
2. Describe the process of transcription and translation.
3. What is the role of RNA in gene expression?

Activity 2: Gene Expression Simulation

Simulate the process of gene expression using a simple board game or simulation software. Follow the instructions and answer the questions provided.

Group Task:

Work in groups to simulate gene expression and discuss the following questions:

- What are the key steps in the process of gene expression?
- How do transcription factors and enhancers regulate gene expression?

Genetic Variation and Inheritance

In this section, we will explore the concept of genetic variation and its significance in genetics. You will learn about the different types of genetic mutations and their effects on gene expression.

1. What is genetic variation, and how does it occur?

2. Describe the different types of genetic mutations and their effects on gene expression.

3. What is the role of genetics in shaping traits and characteristics?

Activity 3: Genetic Variation Sorting Game

Sort a set of cards with different genetic traits and characteristics. Explain how genetic variation affects the expression of these traits.

Group Task:

Work in groups to sort the cards and discuss the following questions:

- How do genetic mutations affect the expression of traits?
- What are the implications of genetic variation for human health and disease?

DNA Sequencing and Genomics

In this section, we will explore the process of DNA sequencing and its applications in genetics. You will learn about the different methods of DNA sequencing and their significance in genomics.

1. What is DNA sequencing, and how is it used in genetics?

2. Describe the process of DNA sequencing and its applications.
3. What is genomics, and how does it relate to DNA sequencing?

Activity 4: DNA Sequencing Puzzle

Solve a DNA sequencing puzzle using a worksheet or online tool. Explain the process of DNA sequencing and its significance in genetics.

Group Task:

Work in groups to solve the puzzle and discuss the following questions:

- What are the advantages and limitations of DNA sequencing?
- · How does DNA sequencing contribute to our understanding of genetics and genomics?

Gene Regulation and Expression

In this section, we will explore the process of gene regulation and its significance in genetics. You will learn about transcription factors, enhancers, and the role of RNA in gene regulation.

1. What is gene regulation, and how does it occur?

2. Describe the role of transcription factors and enhancers in gene regulation.

3. What is the significance of gene regulation in development and disease?

Activity 5: Gene Regulation Simulation

Simulate the process of gene regulation using a simple board game or simulation software. Follow the instructions and answer the questions provided.

Group Task:

Work in groups to simulate gene regulation and discuss the following questions:

- How do transcription factors and enhancers regulate gene expression?
- What are the implications of gene regulation for human health and disease?

Genetic Technologies and Applications
In this section, we will explore the latest genetic technologies and their applications in medicine, agriculture, and biotechnology. You will learn about the ethical implications of genetic technologies and their potential impact on society.
1. What are the latest genetic technologies, and how are they used?
2 Describe the applications of genetic technologies in medicine, agriculture, and biotechnology
3. What are the ethical implications of genetic technologies?

Activity 6: Genetic Technologies Debate

Participate in a debate on the ethics of genetic technologies. Research and argue for or against the use of genetic technologies in different fields.

Group Task:

Work in groups to research and debate the following topics:

- Genetic engineering and its applications
- Gene editing and its implications for human health

Review and Reflection
In this section, we will review the key concepts learned throughout this welcome pack. You will have the opportunity to reflect on your learning and think about how genetics will impact your life and society.
1. What did you learn about DNA sequencing and gene expression?
2. How do you think genetics will impact your life and society?
3. What questions do you still have about genetics, and how can you find the answers?

Activity 7: Genetics Research Project

Research and create a presentation on a topic related to genetics, such as genetic diseases or genetic engineering. Share your findings with the class and discuss the implications of your research.

Group Task:

Work in groups to research and present the following topics:

- Genetic diseases and their causes
- Genetic engineering and its applications

Glossary and Resources

In this section, we will provide a glossary of genetic terms and a list of resources for further learning.

- Glossary of genetic terms
- · List of genetic resources, including books, websites, and videos

Quiz and Assessment

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the key concepts learned throughout this welcome pack.

Conclusion and Next Steps

In this final section, we will summarize the key concepts learned throughout this welcome pack and provide next steps for further learning and exploration.

- 1. Summary of key concepts learned
- 2. Next steps for further learning and exploration
- 3. Encouragement to continue learning about genetics and its applications

Final Reflection

Take a moment to reflect on your learning and think about how genetics will impact your life and society.