

Worksheet 2 Teacher's notes

1. Each one of our cells contains 46 strands of DNA
2. A gene contains information for a cell to read but what exactly does the information do?
3. Genes make proteins. Those proteins then interact with each other
4. A single strand of DNA contains a thousand of genes or unique protein recipes
5. Some genes are small, only about 300 letters long, others are well over a million.
6. Hemoglobin for example is a protein structure found in red blood cells.
7. Pepsin is a digestive protein. Its unique shape allows it to break down food inside your stomach so it can be absorbed by the body.
8. Different creatures have different genes which is ultimately why their bodies look and function differently.
9. The basic DNA code, the language of As Cs Ts and Gs is pretty much the same for all living things.
10. You might not be too surprised to learn that humans and chimps (which are closely related) share 96 % of their genetic code.
11. Engineers have mixed and matched the genes of different organisms to produce many new creatures.