



Cystic Fibrosis: A DNA Case Study

DNA Processes



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Grade Level	9th – 12th Grade	Time Frame	4-5 class period(s)
Course	Biology I	Duration	250 minutes

Essential Question

How are genetic disorders related to DNA processes?

Summary

Students will use DNA processes such as replication, transcription, and translation to study the differences between healthy individuals and those with a genetic disorder (in this case, cystic fibrosis). Students will apply this knowledge to the inheritance of traits through the use of Punnett squares.

Snapshot

Engage

Students will watch a 3-minute video on DNA replication, transcription, and translation. Students will complete two assessment probes after the video and discuss their responses to each.

Explore

Students will investigate cystic fibrosis by comparing the chest X-rays of a healthy individual and an individual with cystic fibrosis. Students will read information on cystic fibrosis and work together to determine the genetic causes of this specific disorder.

Explain

Students will share information discovered about cystic fibrosis through class discussion.

Extend

Students will select a level 1 and a level 2 genetic disorder. They will research the disorders and prepare an informational poster for a walk-about.

Evaluate

Students will use academic vocabulary cards to demonstrate conceptual relationships and their understanding of basic DNA processes.

Standards

Next Generation Science Standards (Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

HS-LS3-1: Ask questions to clarify relationships about the role of DNA and chromosomes in coding the instructions for characteristic traits passed from parents to offspring.

HS-LS3-3: Apply concepts of statistics and probability to explain the variation and distribution of expressed traits in a population.

Oklahoma Academic Standards (Biology)

B.LS2.5 : Develop a model to illustrate the role of photosynthesis and cellular respiration in the cycling of carbon among the biosphere, atmosphere, hydrosphere, and geosphere.

B.LS3.1 : Ask questions to clarify relationships about the role of DNA and chromosomes in coding the instructions for characteristic traits passed from parents to offspring.

Attachments

- [Academic Vocabulary Cards - Spanish.doc](#)
- [Academic Vocabulary Cards - Spanish.pdf](#)
- [Academic Vocabulary Cards.doc](#)
- [Academic Vocabulary Cards.pdf](#)
- [Cystic Fibrosis Reading—A DNA Case Study - Spanish.docx](#)
- [Cystic Fibrosis Reading—A DNA Case Study - Spanish.pdf](#)
- [Cystic Fibrosis Reading—A DNA Case Study.docx](#)
- [Cystic Fibrosis Reading—A DNA Case Study.pdf](#)
- [Dogs Puppies More - Spanish.docx](#)
- [Dogs Puppies More - Spanish.pdf](#)
- [Dogs Puppies More.docx](#)
- [Dogs Puppies More.pdf](#)
- [Genetic Structure Probe - Spanish.docx](#)
- [Genetic Structure Probe - Spanish.pdf](#)
- [Genetic Structure Probe.docx](#)
- [Genetic Structure Probe.pdf](#)
- [cystic_fibrosis_student_handout_1 - Spanish.doc](#)
- [cystic_fibrosis_student_handout_1 - Spanish.pdf](#)
- [cystic_fibrosis_student_handout_1.doc](#)
- [cystic_fibrosis_student_handout_1.pdf](#)
- [cystic_fibrosis_student_handout_2 - Spanish.doc](#)
- [cystic_fibrosis_student_handout_2 - Spanish.pdf](#)
- [cystic_fibrosis_student_handout_2.doc](#)
- [cystic_fibrosis_student_handout_2.pdf](#)
- [cystic_fibrosis_student_handout_3 - Spanish.doc](#)
- [cystic_fibrosis_student_handout_3 - Spanish.pdf](#)
- [cystic_fibrosis_student_handout_3.doc](#)
- [cystic_fibrosis_student_handout_3.pdf](#)
- [cystic_fibrosis_student_handout_4 - Spanish.doc](#)
- [cystic_fibrosis_student_handout_4 - Spanish.pdf](#)
- [cystic_fibrosis_student_handout_4.doc](#)
- [cystic_fibrosis_student_handout_4.pdf](#)

Materials

- short DNA processes video, see resources or a short reading out of the textbook
- formative assessment probes, see attached documents

- student handouts 1 through 4, see attached documents
- genetic disorder readings for cystic fibrosis and several others at levels 1 and 2, see resources for website location of suggested readings
- Butcher paper or computer access (with software such as PowerPoint or Internet access to create a Prezi) for presentations
- Computers with Internet access

Engage

Background Information

For a visual introduction/overview, watch the video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xUlrreMaUrs> (Note: this is not the same video as the suggested video linked in the next session). DNA makes up the majority of chromosomes. There are 22 pairs of autosomes (body chromosomes) and one pair of sex chromosomes (typically - female: XX and male: XY). A gene is a portion of DNA that codes for specific amino acids to be processed. This chain of amino acids makes up a protein and, when folded correctly, carries out life functions. There are three major DNA processes: replication, transcription, and translation. DNA replication occurs inside the nucleus and only involves a portion of DNA; which portion of DNA is involved depends on what protein is to be manufactured. Once the selected portion of DNA has been replicated, the next process is transcription. This process prepares the replicated DNA section to leave the nucleus and enter the cytoplasm of the cell in the role of RNA, specifically mRNA or messenger RNA. Once outside the nucleus, translation takes place. Translation is the matching of codons and anticodons to construct the chain of amino acids. Codons are located on the mRNA strand, and anticodons are located on transfer RNA (tRNA), which holds a specific amino acid (for example CCC is the anticodon for glycine). After translation, the chain of amino acids undergoes a folding process to make up a functional protein. If the protein is incorrectly folded, in embryonic cells, the result can be a non-functioning protein or a mal-functioning protein leading to a genetic disorder. This lesson can be used as a springboard for teaching basic DNA processes, or it can be used to strengthen students' understanding of DNA processes. The teacher's role in this unit should be as a guide on the side, listening to students as they work and assisting when appropriate. The instructor may need to stop the lesson periodically to clarify concepts or have a teaching moment if the lesson is used as a springboard to DNA processes.

- Have students watch the suggested video found [here](#).
- Pass out the "Genetic Structure Probe" document, found under Attachments, and give students time to read and respond to the prompt individually.
- Using a [Four Corners](#) strategy, label the corners in this activity "Kyle," "Billy," "Kelly," and "Janet." Tell students to go the corner with the name of the person they agree with the most from the "Genetic Structure Probe."
- Have students discuss why they chose the corner and pick a spokesperson from each group who will try to convince the rest of the students to join their corner.
- Allow each group to state their case to convince other students to join their corner.
- After each corner speech allow students to change corners, if they wish.

Sample Four Corners Student Reasoning

"I agree with Billy because genes make up our traits, and DNA is the molecule of life, so DNA must be on genes." "I agree with Kyle because genes make up our traits, and we have 23 pairs of chromosomes that do this, so chromosomes must be on genes." "I agree with Kelly because DNA is very long, and we have a lot of genes, so the long DNA can hold all of the genes." "I agree with Janet because DNA is very long, and we have 23 pairs of chromosomes on the body that sit on the DNA and do their thing."

Teacher's Note

The best response is from Kelly because chromosomes are made of DNA, and genes are segments of DNA. This activity will elicit background knowledge and help you identify misconceptions regarding the relationships between chromosomes, DNA, and genes. Tell the class the best choice was Kelly. If the students who chose Kelly have not adequately or accurately explained their reasoning, the teacher should explain why Kelly is the best choice here.

- Students should return to their chairs.
- Give students the "Dogs – Puppies and So Much More" assessment probe, and allow them time to read and respond to the prompt individually.
- While they are reading the probe, go around the room and remove the names "Kyle," "Billy," "Kelly," and "Janet," replacing them with "Kevin," "Tisha," "Ahmad," "Joann," and "Maria" (there are five choices for this probe).
- Repeat the same procedure as before, having the students choose the name of the person they believe is the most correct from the probe and then go to that corner.
- Give students time to discuss their responses among each other in their groups and prepare a 30-second elevator speech supporting their points of view. An elevator speech is short oral presentation that mimics the type of quick conversation you may have while on an elevator.
- One student from each group should be nominated to give the speech.
- Allow each group to give their speeches to the class. Be sure to only allow 30 seconds per speech!
- After the speeches have been made, allow students to join another group, if they wish.

Sample Student Responses

"I agree with Kevin because recessive traits are hidden." "I agree with Ahmad because if one parent is deaf they usually have deaf offspring, so the trait is dominant. I remember one-fourth as a Punnett square probability." "I agree with Tisha, because hearing parents can have deaf offspring and recessive traits are hidden -- unless both parents have the recessive gene, then there is a one-fourth chance of the babies having the recessive trait." "I agree with Joann because testing hearing in dogs has to be difficult and partial deafness could be passed on." "I agree with Maria. The phrase 'runt of the litter' has to have some merit."

Teacher's Note

The best response is from Tisha because it demonstrates an understanding that half of the puppy's chromosomes come from the egg supplied by the mother and the other half comes from the sperm supplied by the father. Alleles are found on chromosomes and carry the code for dominant or recessive traits. It is the pairing of these alleles that make up a full gene. In this example, hearing is dominant and deafness is recessive. With both parents being heterozygous, having a non-matching pair of alleles for same gene, there is a 25% possibility of one recessive allele from each parent coming together to create, in this case, a deaf puppy.

Differentiation For This Phase

During the engage portion you could change the number of responses the students look at on the handout.

Explore

- Pass out "student handout 1" or show the two X-ray images to the class using a projector.
- Ask students to examine the two X-rays and explain the differences. They will record their responses in the explanation boxes provided on the handout or in their notebooks.
- Briefly have students share out their responses.

Teacher's Note

Leave the picture on the projector, or tell the students to hang on to the handout with the X-ray images, if you handed out copies. Students will need the lung images after they read the cystic fibrosis article.

- Pass out copies of "Cystic Fibrosis Reading." Have students use a reading strategy such as: [CUS and Discuss](#) or [Why-Lighting](#) while they read the article to encourage close reading and to make them think about the article critically.
- Have students [Think-Pair-Share](#) with a partner and discuss the article they just read.
- With their partner, students should complete handouts 2 and 3.
- Monitor students' progress and assist them when needed by using guiding questions or by giving them technical information, if certain material has yet to be covered in class.

Explain

- Lead students through a class discussion going over handouts 1 through 3 using an [Inverted Pyramid](#) strategy.

Teacher's Note

At this point in the lesson, students have partners. Tell each pair of students to form a group with another pair of students so there are now four in a group. In groups of four, the students should compare answers. Afterward, a whole-class discussion will take place.

- Ask students to answer the essential question: How are genetic disorders related to DNA processes? This can be done individually or in small groups.
- Have students share responses to the essential question.
- See teacher note below about handout 4.

Teacher's Note

Handout 4 requires students to match nucleotide bases for replication and transcription. If this has not been covered, you may have to explain base pairing. For replication, Adenine and Thymine (A-T) pair up, and Guanine and Cytosine (C-G) pair up. For transcription (making of mRNA), Thymine is replaced with Uracil so the base pairings are Adenine and Uracil (A-U) and Guanine and Cytosine (C-G). Students will model translation by using the codon chart to determine which amino acid is being used in the chain to form a protein.

Extend

- Using the [Inverted Pyramid](#) strategy again, have students attempt handout 4, covering nucleotide base pairing.
- Start with students in pairs, then groups, then discuss the handout as a whole class.
- Once again, ask students to answer the essential question: How are genetic disorders related to DNA processes? This can be done individually or in small groups.
- Next, put students in groups and have them select another genetic disorder to investigate. You may have students research on their own, or you may use the information provided from the [website](#).
- Have each group make a poster, Power Point, or Prezi including the following information: Name of disorder, brief description, chromosome affected, inheritance of disorder, a possible Punnett square for the disorder, cause of disorder (such as deletion, insertion, duplication), possible treatments, and interesting facts. Have students do a [Gallery Walk](#). You can have one student from each group remain with the poster to explain, or have a question and answer session after everyone has had a chance to see all of the posters. If a group chooses to make a Power Point or Prezi, have them present it to the class.
- Have students do a [Gallery Walk](#). You can have one student from each group remain with the poster to explain, or have a question and answer session after everyone has had a chance to see all of the posters. If a group chooses to make a Power Point or Prezi, have them present it to the class.

Differentiation

The requirements in this phase can be lessened, or individual students can be assigned a particular portion of the research to complete.

Evaluate

- Give a set of academic vocabulary cards to pairs of students. Have each pair sort the cards in a way that makes sense to them. Give them a few minutes without allowing them to look at the back of the card. Then tell them they can flip over five cards to read the back before finalizing their arrangement.
- Each pair shares how they arranged their cards and why. You may have students tape or paste their cards on butcher paper to help them show and explain their arrangement.

Resources

- Engage video: DNA replication, transcription, translation, such as <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gG7uCskUOrA>
- Informational texts for various genetic disorders:
<http://learn.genetics.utah.edu/content/disorders/singlegene/>