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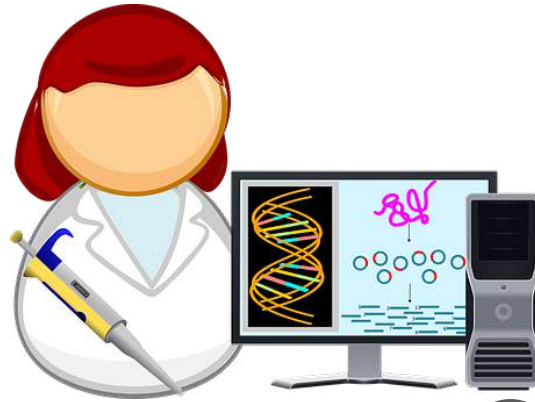
6th, 7th, 8th Grade Reading Mega Bundle

Reading Comprehension Passage & Questions

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Genetics and Gene Therapy



Genetics

Genetics is the study of how parents pass traits to their children. A person's hair color, skin color, eye color, height, and many other traits are passed on from his or her parents. These things are passed down through our genes. Diseases can also be passed on through our genes.



Traits such as skin color are passed from parents to children.

DNA, Genes, and Heredity

Your DNA is your body's blueprint. It is the plan that will control what you will be like. All humans have 46 chromosomes arranged in pairs. Inside our chromosomes are our

genes. The genes tell what color hair we will have or how tall we will be.



DNA is your body's blueprint.

Our bodies have tens of thousands of genes. These genes are made up of DNA. Everyone has two parents. Half of our genes come from our mom and half of them from our dad.

Genes can do different jobs. Some are responsible for important

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Genetic Disorders

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- Hemophilia (a blood clotting disease)
- Diabetes
- Cancer
- High blood pressure



Mutations can be caused by an error when the gene is being formed or if DNA is exposed to radiation, chemicals, or toxins.

Although a person may have the genes for these diseases, they do not always get them. Some things such as chemicals, diet, and lifestyle can help to cause these problems.

Gene Therapy

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Future Application

Scientists have developed genetic screening. These are tests that can tell what diseases may exist in a person's genes. This helps people to know what to expect and make changes to their diet and lifestyles. However, some people feel this technology shouldn't be used because it may allow parents to choose the height, hair, and eye color of their kids. These are called designer babies.

Reading Comprehension Questions:

1. What is genetics?
2. How is your DNA like your body's blueprint?
3. Where
4. Explain
5. List
6. What is gene therapy?
7. Explain how gene therapy can be used to help someone with diabetes?

Extension Questions:

8. Why is
9. What is

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TIME SAMPLE

References

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