

WHERE IN THE WORLD IS DNA?

Students will work in explorative teams to make a list of all the items in the classroom that they believe contain DNA. Each team will then post and share their list. The teacher should act as a facilitator, compiling a master list, briefly discussing what DNA is, and having the students update their own lists.

Primary Learning Outcomes:

Students will learn to recognize what things contain DNA. Students will learn what DNA is and why it is necessary for life.

High School Georgia Performance Standards

SCSh3 Students will identify and investigate problems scientifically.

SB2 Students will analyze how biological traits are passed on to successive generations.

Middle School Georgia Performance Standards

S7CS9 Students will investigate the features of the process of scientific inquiry.

S7L2 Students will describe the structure and function of cells, tissues, organs, and organ systems.

S7L3 Students will recognize how biological traits are passed on to successive generations.

Materials:

Kit will not provide any materials

- Pictures of various living things from all 6 kingdoms
- If possible, secure a living organism from each of the 6 kingdoms
- Pictures and/or examples of non-living things.

Advance preparation:

- Set up the classroom with pictures and living examples of various *organisms* from all 6 kingdoms. Include pictures and examples of non-living things that students might consider living (rocks, soil, etc.). Pair students into teams of 2.

PROCEDURE

1. Form student pairs.
2. Provide each team with a clipboard, form provided below, and pencil.
3. Give the teams 10 minutes to walk around the classroom, listing all those things that might contain DNA.
4. Have each team post and share their lists. Teacher should act as a facilitator, making a master list to eliminate duplication.
5. Give the students 5 - 10 minutes to update their lists by removing the objects that do not have DNA. Follow up to ensure students are grasping the idea.
6. Teacher should update the master list after coaching each team to correct their lists.
7. Review and remediate.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT HAS DNA AND WHAT DOESN'T?

Walk around the room with your teammate and this sheet. Decide what contains DNA and what doesn't. Write your answers below.

HAS DNA

NO DNA