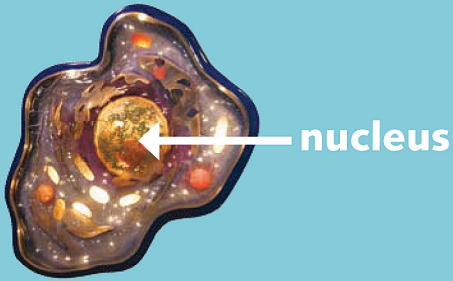
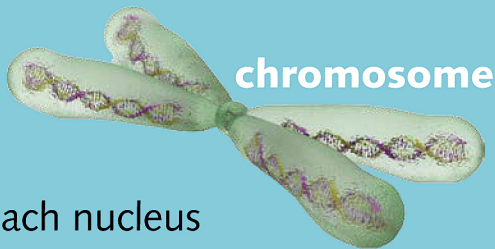


Where Are Your Genes?

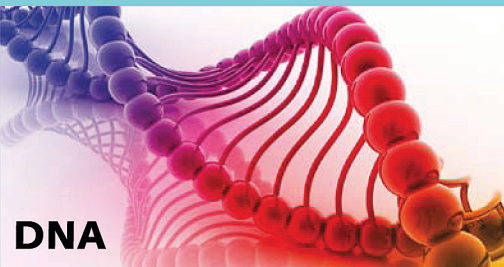
The human body contains trillions of cells.



Each cell contains a nucleus.



Each nucleus contains **chromosomes**. Chromosomes are formed of tightly coiled DNA.



Each section of DNA contains the genes.

The Next in Line



Living things reproduce as part of their life cycle. Living things pass on traits as a part of reproduction. Each person inherits one set of genes, or instructions, from each parent.



Unlike Gregor Mendel's peas, human traits are often controlled by more than one gene. This makes studying human genetics difficult. A single gene causes our blood type and some diseases, like certain cancers. Scientists study parents and children to learn more about the genetics of the disease and to find the gene that causes the disease. If they can find the gene and understand what is going wrong, they may be able to prevent or cure the disease.

Our bodies follow the instructions written in our genes to form the shape of our fingers, our blood type, and the color of our skin, hair, and eyes.

