

Recombinant Dna Genes And Genomes A Short Course Third Edition

Watson Recombinant Dna

Recombinant Dna Genes And Genomes A Short Course Third Edition Watson Recombinant Dna Introduction to Recombinant DNA Technology Recombinant DNA genes and genomes a short course third edition Watson recombinant DNA is a comprehensive resource that offers an in-depth exploration of the principles, techniques, and applications of recombinant DNA technology. This field has revolutionized biological sciences, enabling scientists to manipulate genetic material with unprecedented precision. The third edition, authored by James D. Watson, reflects the latest advances, providing students and researchers with foundational knowledge and practical insights necessary to understand and utilize recombinant DNA techniques effectively. Recombinant DNA technology involves combining DNA molecules from different sources to create new genetic combinations. This process has paved the way for breakthroughs in medicine, agriculture, and industry, including the production of insulin, genetically modified crops, and gene therapy. The book emphasizes both the theoretical underpinnings and practical methodologies, making complex topics accessible to learners at various levels. Fundamentals of Recombinant DNA Historical Context and Significance The development of recombinant DNA technology traces back to the 1970s, marking a milestone in molecular biology. Pioneering scientists like Paul Berg, Herbert Boyer, and Stanley Cohen laid the groundwork for manipulating genetic material. Their work demonstrated that DNA from different sources could be combined and introduced into host organisms, leading to the development of genetically modified organisms (GMOs). The significance of recombinant DNA lies in its ability to:

- Clone specific genes
- Produce proteins in large quantities
- Study gene functions
- Develop gene therapies

Key Concepts and Definitions Understanding recombinant DNA begins with grasping fundamental concepts such as:

- Gene: A segment of DNA that encodes a functional product, typically a protein.

Genome: The complete set of genetic material in an organism. Vector: A DNA molecule used to carry foreign genetic material into a host cell (e.g., plasmids, viruses). Cloning: The process of producing identical copies of a DNA sequence or organism. 2 Restriction Enzymes: Enzymes that cut DNA at specific sequences, facilitating gene cloning. Core Techniques in Recombinant DNA Technology DNA Isolation and Fragmentation The first step involves isolating DNA from cells. Techniques such as phenol-chloroform extraction or commercial kits are employed to obtain pure DNA. Once isolated, DNA is fragmented into manageable pieces using: Restriction enzymes that recognize specific sequences Mechanical shearing (e.g., sonication) These fragments are then prepared for insertion into vectors. Cloning and Vector Selection Cloning involves inserting DNA fragments into vectors, which are then introduced into host organisms to replicate. Critical steps include: Choosing an appropriate vector (e.g., plasmid, lambda phage, BACs)1. Inserting DNA fragments into vectors using ligases (DNA ligase)2. Transforming host cells (commonly bacteria like *E. coli*) with the recombinant vector3. Screening and Verification Post-transformation, colonies are screened to identify those containing the recombinant DNA. Techniques include: Blue-white screening (using *lacZ* gene disruption) PCR amplification of inserted DNA Restriction digestion analysis DNA sequencing Genomes and Gene Mapping Understanding Genomes A genome encompasses all genetic material of an organism. Advances in recombinant DNA have enabled the sequencing and manipulation of entire genomes, leading to the fields of genomics and functional genomics. 3 Gene Mapping Techniques Gene mapping involves locating specific genes within the genome. Techniques include: Linkage analysis Restriction fragment length polymorphism (RFLP) Physical mapping using sequencing data Accurate mapping is essential for identifying disease-related genes and understanding genetic regulation. Applications of Recombinant DNA Technology Medical Applications Recombinant DNA has transformed medicine through: Production of recombinant proteins (e.g., insulin, growth hormones) Gene therapy to treat genetic disorders Development of vaccines (e.g., hepatitis B vaccine) Diagnostics and genetic testing Agricultural Biotechnology Genetic modification of crops has increased yields and resistance: Development of pest-resistant plants (e.g., Bt cotton) Herbicide-tolerant crops Biofortified foods with enhanced nutritional content Industrial and Environmental Applications Recombinant DNA techniques facilitate: Production of biofuels Bioremediation of pollutants Manufacture of biodegradable plastics Ethical and Safety

Considerations Recombinant DNA technology raises important ethical issues such as: Genetic privacy and consent Potential ecological impacts of GMOs Biosecurity concerns related to gene editing 4 Safety protocols, risk assessments, and regulatory frameworks are essential to ensure responsible use. Advances and Future Directions Emerging Technologies Recent innovations include: CRISPR-Cas9 gene editing for precise modifications Synthetic biology to design novel genetic circuits Next-generation sequencing for comprehensive genome analysis Potential Impact These advances promise to: Cure genetic diseases more effectively1. Create sustainable agricultural practices2. Develop personalized medicine3. Address global environmental challenges4. Conclusion Recombinant DNA genes and genomes, as detailed in Watson's "A Short Course," third edition, provide a fundamental understanding of how genetic material can be manipulated to benefit science and society. The techniques and principles discussed serve as a foundation for ongoing innovations in medicine, agriculture, and industry. As the field continues to evolve, ethical considerations and safety measures will remain paramount to harness the full potential of recombinant DNA technology responsibly. This knowledge not only advances scientific discovery but also offers solutions to some of the most pressing challenges faced by humanity today. QuestionAnswer What are the main topics covered in 'Recombinant DNA Genes and Genomes, A Short Course, Third Edition' by Watson? The book covers fundamental concepts of recombinant DNA technology, gene cloning, genome mapping, molecular techniques, and applications in medicine and agriculture, providing a comprehensive overview suitable for students and researchers. How does Watson's 'Recombinant DNA' book help in understanding the principles of gene cloning? It explains the molecular mechanisms of gene cloning, including vector design, DNA ligation, transformation, and screening processes, with clear diagrams and step-by-step procedures for learners. 5 What advancements in recombinant DNA technology are highlighted in the third edition of Watson's textbook? The third edition discusses recent developments such as CRISPR-Cas9 gene editing, high-throughput sequencing, and synthetic biology applications, reflecting the latest innovations in the field. Why is Watson's 'Recombinant DNA' considered a key resource for students studying molecular genetics? Because it offers a concise, well-structured introduction to core concepts, experimental techniques, and real-world applications, making complex topics accessible for learners at various levels. Does the third edition of Watson's 'Recombinant DNA' include updates on genome

sequencing projects? Yes, it provides updated information on genome sequencing efforts, including human and microbial genomes, and discusses their implications for genetics and biotechnology. How does the book address ethical considerations related to recombinant DNA technology? The book discusses ethical issues such as genetic privacy, bioethics of gene editing, and biosafety concerns, encouraging responsible research and application of recombinant DNA technologies. Can Watson's 'Recombinant DNA' be used as a textbook for laboratory courses? Yes, it includes practical lab techniques, protocols, and troubleshooting tips, making it a valuable resource for laboratory-based courses in molecular biology and genetic engineering. Recombinant DNA Genes and Genomes: A Short Course, Third Edition Watson Recombinant DNA offers a comprehensive and accessible exploration into the fundamental principles and practical applications of recombinant DNA technology. Authored by renowned scientists, this edition builds on the solid foundation laid by previous versions, providing updated insights into the rapidly evolving field of genetic engineering. Whether you are a student, researcher, or industry professional, this book serves as an invaluable resource that combines theoretical concepts with real-world applications, making complex topics understandable and engaging.

--- Overview of the Book "Recombinant DNA Genes and Genomes: A Short Course, Third Edition Watson Recombinant DNA" is designed as an introductory yet thorough guide to the science of recombinant DNA. It emphasizes clarity, pedagogical approach, and practical relevance, making it suitable for newcomers and seasoned practitioners alike. The book covers core themes such as the molecular basis of DNA manipulation, cloning techniques, genome analysis, and the latest advances in biotechnology. The third edition enhances previous content with new case studies, updated methodologies, and recent technological innovations, reflecting the dynamic nature of the field. It maintains a balance between theoretical foundations and practical procedures, reinforced with illustrations, diagrams, and problem sets to facilitate learning.

--- Recombinant Dna Genes And Genomes A Short Course Third Edition Watson Recombinant Dna 6 Core Topics Covered

1. Fundamentals of DNA Structure and Function

The book begins with a solid foundation in DNA chemistry, structure, and function. It revisits the basics of nucleotide composition, Watson-Crick base pairing, and the organization of genetic material in prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells. Understanding these fundamentals is crucial for grasping the mechanisms of recombinant DNA technology.

Features:

- Clear explanations of DNA replication, transcription, and

translation. - Illustrations demonstrating DNA structural motifs. - Emphasis on the importance of DNA sequence information for genetic engineering. Pros: - Provides a strong conceptual background. - Well-illustrated, aiding visual learners. Cons: - Might be too basic for advanced readers seeking detailed molecular mechanisms.

2. Techniques in Recombinant DNA Technology This section delves into the laboratory methods that underpin recombinant DNA work. It covers restriction enzymes, DNA ligases, cloning vectors, and transformation techniques. Features: - Step-by-step protocols for cloning and gene insertion. - Discussion of plasmids, phagemids, cosmids, and BACs. - Troubleshooting tips and practical considerations. Pros: - Practical orientation helps learners understand lab procedures. - Includes recent advances like CRISPR-Cas systems. Cons: - Some procedures may lack detailed experimental nuances for novice labs.

3. Cloning and Expression of Genes Cloning remains a core technique, and this section explains how to isolate, amplify, and express specific genes in host organisms. It discusses expression vectors, promoter elements, and fusion tags. Features: - Comparative analysis of expression systems (bacterial, yeast, mammalian). - Case studies illustrating successful gene cloning projects. Pros: - Useful for students designing experiments. - Highlights applications in medicine and industry. Cons: - Limited coverage of emerging vector technologies.

4. Genomes and Genome Mapping The book explores genome organization, sequencing, and mapping strategies. It emphasizes methods like shotgun sequencing, physical and genetic maps, and the assembly of genomic data. Features: - Overview of the Human Genome Project and other large-scale efforts. - Introduction to bioinformatics tools for genome analysis. Pros: - Connects classical genetics with modern genomics. - Includes recent advancements in high-throughput sequencing. Cons: - Some sections may be dense for beginners.

Recombinant Dna Genes And Genomes A Short Course Third Edition Watson Recombinant Dna 7 unfamiliar with computational biology.

5. Applications of Recombinant DNA Technology This part highlights how recombinant DNA techniques have revolutionized medicine, agriculture, and industry. Topics include gene therapy, GMO development, and biopharmaceutical production. Features: - Case studies of successful gene therapy trials. - Ethical considerations and safety issues. Pros: - Demonstrates real-world impact. - Encourages critical thinking about bioethics. Cons: - Limited discussion of regulatory frameworks globally.

--- Features and Educational Value Strengths: - Concise yet comprehensive: The book manages to cover a broad spectrum of topics without overwhelming the reader.

- Updated content: The third edition incorporates recent technological breakthroughs, making it current and relevant. - Pedagogical tools: End-of-chapter questions, summaries, and suggested readings enhance comprehension. - Visual aids: Diagrams, charts, and illustrations clarify complex processes and structures. - Real-world relevance: Emphasis on practical applications and case studies provides context and motivation. Limitations: - Depth for advanced learners: While suitable for beginners and intermediates, certain complex topics may require supplementary texts. - Limited laboratory protocols: The book provides an overview rather than detailed experimental procedures. - Bioinformatics coverage: Given the rapid growth of computational biology, some readers might seek more extensive bioinformatics guidance. --- Strengths of the Third Edition - Inclusion of cutting-edge technologies: CRISPR-Cas9, next-generation sequencing, and synthetic biology are integrated into the narrative. - Enhanced visuals: Improved illustrations and schematic diagrams aid understanding. - Expanded case studies: New real-world examples illustrate the impact of recombinant DNA in various fields. - Updated references: Ensures readers access the latest research articles and reviews. --- Target Audience and Usage This book is ideal for undergraduate students beginning their journey into molecular biology and genetic engineering. It also serves as a quick reference for researchers and professionals needing a refresher or overview of current concepts. Usage Tips: - Use as a textbook for introductory courses. - Complement with laboratory manuals for practical skills. - Pair with bioinformatics resources for genome analysis. --- Recombinant Dna Genes And Genomes A Short Course Third Edition Watson Recombinant Dna 8 Conclusion: Is It Worth It? "Recombinant DNA Genes and Genomes: A Short Course, Third Edition Watson Recombinant DNA" stands out as a well-structured, accessible, and up-to-date primer in the field of genetic engineering. Its balanced approach makes it suitable for a wide audience, providing foundational knowledge alongside insights into cutting-edge technology. While it might not replace specialized texts for advanced research, it serves as an excellent starting point and reference guide. Pros: - Clear, concise, and well-organized. - Incorporates recent technological advances. - Suitable for educational and professional development. Cons: - May lack depth for specialists. - Limited experimental protocols for hands-on lab work. Overall, this edition earns high marks for its clarity, relevance, and pedagogical design. It is a valuable addition to any molecular biology library and an effective tool for learning about the fascinating world of recombinant DNA technology. --- Final verdict: If you're

seeking a solid, introductory resource that bridges fundamental concepts with modern applications, "Recombinant DNA Genes and Genomes: A Short Course, Third Edition Watson Recombinant DNA" is highly recommended. recombinant DNA, genes, genomes, molecular biology, genetic engineering, DNA cloning, gene expression, biotechnology, Watson, third edition

DNA, Genes, and ChromosomesGenes and DNAGenes and DNARecombinant DNA: Genes and GenomesAll You Need to Know about DNA, Genes, and Genetic EngineeringAn A to Z of DNA ScienceIntroduction to Genes and DNAWhat is the Genetic Code? DNA, Genes and Chromosomes Explained | Miescher, Watson and Crick | Grade 6-8 Life ScienceFrom Genes to GenomesMolecular Structure Of Genes And ChromosomesGeneticsGenetics and Genetic EngineeringUnderstanding GeneticsUnderstanding GeneticsInformational Biopolymers of Genes and Gene ExpressionA Passion for DNALearning About Your Genes: A Primer For Non-biologistsMolecular and Genetic Analysis of Human TraitsThe Human GenomeThe Thread of Life Mason Anders Richard Walker Charlotte K. Omoto James D. Watson Gordon R. Carter Jeffre L. Witherly Anna Claybourne Baby Professor Jeremy W. Dale N.S. Sharma Daniel L. Hartl Tomas Cannon Teaching Company R.D. Blake James D. Watson Errol C Friedberg Gustavo Maroni Paul F. Kisak Susan Aldridge

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did you know that most of our bodies cells contain about 6 feet 2 meters of dna learn how dna and genes determine each unique trait of plants and animals by taking a close look at the make up and structure of dna

kfk genes dna explores the ever unfolding secrets of this exciting science from the basics of genes and their function as the code for life through variation in families and inheritance to the wide ranging applications of dna technology find out how genes and dna work investigate forensics gene therapy cloning and genetic engineering and enjoy a fascinating insight into the biology of the world around us stunning photographs and thought provoking digital artwork capture the essence of the topic while compelling text guides the reader through a wealth of information each chapter encourages the reader to discover more through links to websites books and places to visit and also suggests possible career opportunities

uses nontechnical language to introduce the basic concepts of genetic science and genetic technology covering such topics as the mechanics of cloning mendelian traits in humans gene regulation and the use of bacteria as protein factories

recombinant dna third edition is an essential text for undergraduate graduate and professional courses in genomics cell and molecular biology recombinant dna genetic engineering human genetics biotechnology and bioinformatics the third edition of this landmark text offers an authoritative accessible and engaging introduction to modern genome centered biology from its foremost practitioners the new edition explores core concepts in molecular biology in a contemporary inquiry based context building its coverage around the most relevant and exciting examples of current research and landmark experiments that redefined our understanding of dna as a result students learn how working scientists make real high impact discoveries the first chapters provide an introduction to the fundamental concepts of genetics and genomics an inside look at the human genome project bioinformatic and experimental techniques for large scale genomic studies and a survey of epigenetics and rna interference the final chapters cover the quest to identify disease causing genes the genetic basis of cancer and dna fingerprinting and forensics in these chapters the authors provide examples of practical applications in human medicine and discuss the future of human genetics and genomics

projects

this timely book was written to provide students and the general reader with basic knowledge relating to dna genes and genetic engineering the great mass of technical data has been condensed to the essentials and presented in a simple and understandable summary form numerous practical applications are highlighted throughout the book and the comprehensive glossary will be an especially helpful feature readers with only a smattering of chemistry and biology should have no difficulty understanding the ideas or following the procedures outlined in this exceptional new resource

defines over 200 terms dealing with the language of genes genomes dna biotechnology and heredity publisher marketing

explains the role of dna and genes in reproduction and discusses heredity the history of genetics such new techniques and developments as genetic engineering and cloning and the ethical issues which they may raise

dive into the blueprint of life with this educational resource perfect for grades 6 8 learn about the intricate world of dna genes and chromosomes and how they determine every aspect of an organism s existence discover the pioneering work of miescher watson and crick and how their discoveries have shaped our understanding of the genetic code this book breaks down complex concepts into understandable segments including the structure of dna the function of genes and the process of dna replication essential for any classroom it provides a solid foundation for understanding the fundamental components that guide growth reproduction and inherited traits enhance your science curriculum with this must have guide to the genetic code

an excellent book achieves all of its goals with style clarity and completeness you can see the power and possibilities of molecular genetics as you read human genetics this volume hits an outstanding balance among readability coverage and detail biochemistry and molecular biology education rapid advances in a collection of techniques referred to as gene technology genetic engineering

recombinant dna technology and gene cloning have pushed molecular biology to the forefront of the biological sciences this new edition of a concise well written textbook introduces key techniques and concepts involved in cloning genes and in studying their expression and variation the book opens with a brief review of the basic concepts of molecular biology before moving on to describe the key molecular methods and how they fit together this ranges from the cloning and study of individual genes to the sequencing of whole genomes and the analysis of genome wide information finally the book moves on to consider some of the applications of these techniques in biotechnology medicine and agriculture as well as in research that is causing the current explosion of knowledge across the biological sciences from genes to genomes concepts and applications of dna technology second edition includes full two colour design throughout specific changes for the new edition include strengthening of gene to genome theme updating and reinforcing of material on proteomics gene therapy and stem cells more eukaryotic mammalian examples and less focus on bacteria this textbook is must have for all undergraduates studying intermediate molecular genetics within the biological and biomedical sciences it is also of interest for researchers and all those needing to update their knowledge of this rapidly moving field

this introductory college level textbook introduces the basic processes of gene transmission mutation expression and regulation hartl harvard u and jones carnegie mellon u present an integrated view of the modern world of genetics treating classical molecular and population genetics as unified subdisciplines within the field modern an

genetics and genetic engineering explores the great discoveries in genetics the study of genes and the inherited information they contain genetic engineering alters the genetic make up of an organism using techniques that remove heritable material or that introduce dna prepared outside the organism either directly into the host or into a cell that is then fused or hybridized with the host this involves using recombinant nucleic acid dna or rna techniques to form new combinations of heritable genetic material followed by the incorporation of that material either indirectly through a vector system or directly through micro injection macro injection and

micro encapsulation techniques genetic engineering also called genetic modification is the direct manipulation of an organism's genes using biotechnology it is a set of technologies used to change the genetic makeup of cells including the transfer of genes within and across species boundaries to produce improved or novel organisms new dna is obtained by either isolating or copying the genetic material of interest using recombinant dna methods or by artificially synthesizing the dna a construct is usually created and used to insert this dna into the host organism the first recombinant dna molecule was made by paul berg in 1972 by combining dna from the monkey virus sv40 with the lambda virus as well as inserting genes the process can be used to remove or even knock out genes the new dna can be inserted randomly or targeted to a specific part of the genome this book will prove equally useful for physicians nurses animal breeders and laboratory technicians in fact everyone whose daily work involves genetics and genetic engineering

this new text examines the biophysics and biochemistry of nucleic acids and proteins carving out the dynamic interface between chemistry and molecular biology and providing a detailed picture of nucleic acids and proteins their structures biological properties and origins and evolution full of novel insights informed by years of research and teaching r d blake has written a new text that examines the biophysics and biochemistry of nucleic acids and proteins this book carves out the dynamic interface between chemistry and molecular biology and provides a detailed picture of nucleic acids and proteins their structures biological properties and origins and evolution while pitched at a level that is accessible to upper level undergraduate students of biology the book will likewise be of keen interest to researchers and graduate students in biology chemistry and the physical sciences a broad range of topics accompanied with extensive references footnotes boxed asides chapter ending problems and detailed illustrations throughout combine to make this an ideal choice for courses on advanced biochemistry physical biochemistry nucleic acids and proteins biophysics and biochemistry molecular evolution and protein nucleic acid interactions

in 1953 two young and unknown scientists james watson and francis crick sparked a worldwide revolution with their discovery of

the molecular composition of dna in this collection of outspoken and topical essays speeches and reports watson offers his unique insight into the advance of molecular genetics the prospect of curing cancer over the next decade how human genetic knowledge is likely to be used particularly in relation to cloning and genetically modified food as well as shedding light on his early life and career

genes were unknowingly discovered in the 19th century by gregor mendel a czechoslovakian monk it was later established that genes are made of dna a biological compound found in tiny thread like structures called chromosomes that are located in the nuclei of all cells in our bodies dna consists of chains of entities called bases of which there are four in nature dna consists of long chains of bases sometimes referred to as dna sequences that are joined in any order but the precise order and length of which constitute different genes many but not all genes carry a code called the genetic code a code that instructs the synthesis manufacture of the many hundreds of proteins that we require to survive and execute the many functions of life the genetic code was deciphered in relatively recent years and is considered one of the most significant discoveries in the history of biology genes that encode instructions for the synthesis of proteins and those that regulate the manufacture of proteins comprise a mere two percent of our dna despite our extensive knowledge of biology and the sub discipline of molecular biology the study of biology at the molecular level the function if any of the rest of the dna in our cells is unknown research about genes and dna has in recent years spawned an endeavor referred to as the human genome project an international collaboration that has successfully determined stored and rendered publicly available the sequences of almost all the genetic content of the chromosomes of the human organism otherwise known as the human genome dna sequences that are unique to every person on earth have been discovered dna fingerprints and are now used for identifying criminals the book relates a specific example of identifying a criminal who murdered two women this is the first and only book that we are aware of that educates non biologists about genes it is written in a style and uses a vocabulary that can be comprehended by the average reader who knows very little if anything about genes

molecular and genetic analysis of human traits will address the science student human genetics market although incorporating two

basic themes how do we establish that a trait is hereditary and how is the human genome organized it will also address relevant clinical examples and key related ethical issues new attractive features have been added including a chapter project and end of chapter exercises which rely on real data each chapter includes end of chapter exercises and references in text examples and internet references are cited most figures will be 2 color with some 4 color inserts

the human genome is the complete set of nucleic acid sequence for humans *homo sapiens* encoded as dna within the 23chromosome pairs in cell nuclei and in a small dna molecule found within individual mitochondria human genomes include both protein coding dna genes and noncoding dna haploid human genomes which are contained in germ cells the egg and spermgamete cells created in the meiosis phase of sexual reproduction before fertilization creates a zygote consist of three billion dnabase pairs while diploid genomes found in somatic cells have twice the dna content while there are significant differences among the genomes of human individuals on the order of 0.1 these are considerably smaller than the differences between humans and their closest living relatives the chimpanzees approximately 4 and bonobos the human genome project produced the first complete sequences of individual human genomes with the first draft sequence and initial analysis being published on february 12 2001 the human genome was the first of all vertebrates to be completely sequenced as of 2012 thousands of human genomes have been completely sequenced and many more have been mapped at lower levels of resolution the resulting data are used worldwide in biomedical science anthropology forensics and other branches of science there is a widely held expectation that genomic studies will lead to advances in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases and to new insights in many fields of biology including human evolution there are an estimated 20 000 25 000 human protein coding genes the estimate of the number of human genes has been repeatedly revised down from initial predictions of 100 000 or more as genome sequence quality and gene finding methods have improved and could continue to drop further protein coding sequences account for only a very small fraction of the genome approximately 1.5 and the rest is associated with non coding rna molecules regulatory dna sequences lines sines introns and sequences for which as yet no function has been determined the total length of the human genome is over 3 billion base pairs

the genome is organized into 22 paired chromosomes plus the x chromosome one in males two in females and in males only one y chromosome these are all large linear dna molecules contained within the cell nucleus the genome also includes the mitochondrial dna a comparatively small circular molecule present in each mitochondrion basic information about these molecules and their gene content based on a reference genome that does not represent the sequence of any specific individual are provided in the following table this book is an excellent overview of the human genome the genetics involved and dna

susan aldrige gives an accessible guide to the world of dna and also explores the applications of genetic engineering in biotechnology she takes the reader step by step through the fascinating study of molecular biology the first part of the book describes dna and its function within living organisms the second part explores genetic engineering and its applications to humans such as gene therapy genetic screening and dna fingerprinting the third part looks at the wider world of biotechnology and how genetic engineering can be applied to such problems as producing vegetarian cheese or cleaning up the environment the final part explains how knowledge of the structure and functioning of genes sheds light on evolution and our place in the world although easy to read this book does not avoid the science involved and should be read by anyone who wants to know about dna and genetic engineering

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