

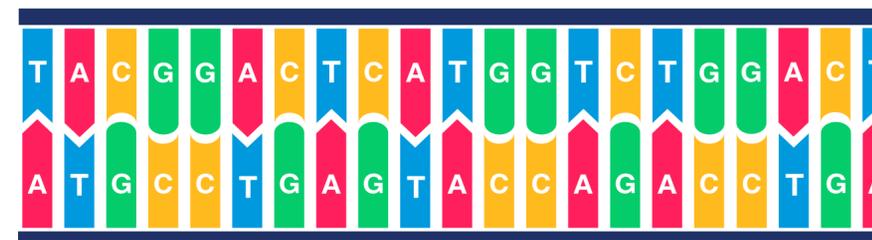
MATHS - DECODING OUR LIVES



DNA - THE CODE OF LIFE

DNA is a very long molecule found inside the cells of all living things. It carries a special code that tells our bodies how to grow and work. It looks like a twisted ladder, which we call a **double helix**.

The steps of this ladder are made up of four different molecules referred to as C, G, A, and T. These letters pair up in a specific way—C always pairs with G, and A always pairs with T.



The diversity of all living things is coded for by different combinations of these four simple molecules that make up DNA.

BARCODES

Barcodes were first used in a supermarket 50 years ago this year and now they are everywhere!

A barcode is a printed series of parallel bars that codes information. They are scanned by a laser that is connected to a computer, which can decode the information.

By varying the width of the black lines and the spacing between them billions of different numbers can be represented. So, each type of product can have a unique barcode. Find out how to decode barcodes and their uses on our website.

QR CODES

QR code (Quick Read Code) is a 2D version of a barcode that can store a lot more information than a barcode. They were invented in Japan, 30 years ago this year. Check out our QR code for more information and activities on codes.

