DNA, Genes, and Chromosomes



The Instructions for Life

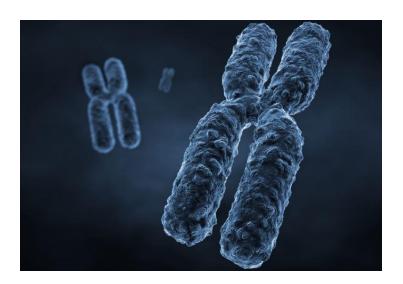
Gene

- Segment of DNA that has the information (the code) for a protein.
- A single molecule of DNA has thousands of genes.
- Remember:

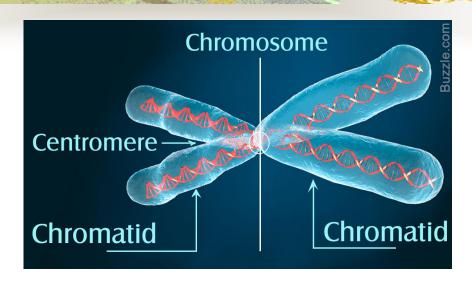
DNA to RNA to Protein

Chromosomes

- Chromosomes are the form DNA becomes in the nucleus when the cell is preparing to divide.
- Humans have 46 chromosomes.
- One set of 23 chromosomes from mom.
- One set of 23chromosomes from dad.

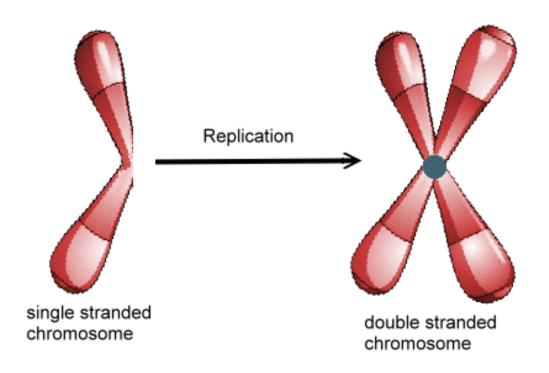


Chromatid



- Two exact copies of a chromosome that are connected together.
- The point where they are connected near the middle is called the centromere.
- Chromatids are made when new cells are going to be made.

Eukaryotic Chromosome Structure



Chromosomes are <u>only visible when a cell is dividing</u> so we usually see them in their double-stranded form.

Each species has a specific number of chromosomes.

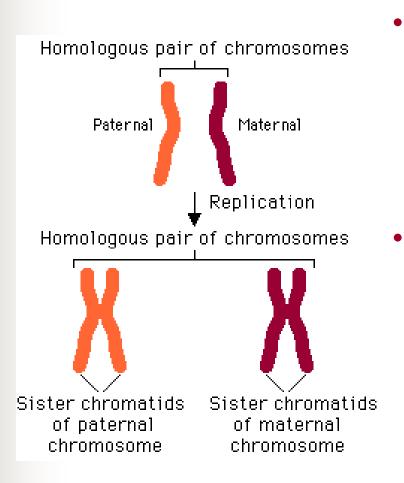
Diploid (2n): two sets of chromosomes

 Found in all the non-sex cells or autosomes of an organism's body

Haploid (n) one set of chromosomes.

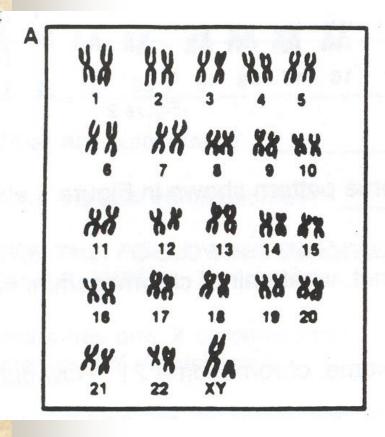
 Only sperm and egg cells(sex cells) have the haploid number.

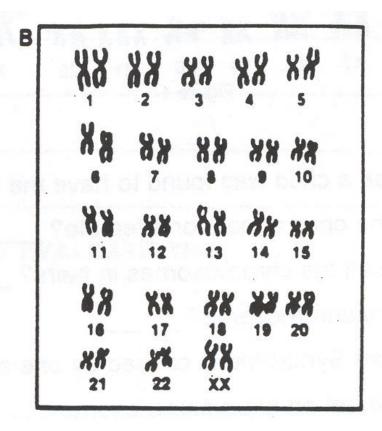
Homologous Chromosomes



- Chromosomes
 containing the same
 type of genetic
 information
 - one comes from male parent, one comes from female parent

The chromosomes diagrammed below are arranged in a **karyotype**, the 46 chromosomes have been arranged in homologous pairs.





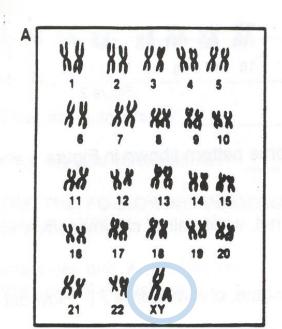
Types of Chromosomes:

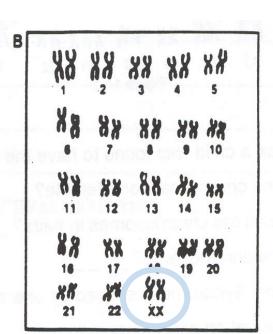
- Autosomes: Body chromosomes or non sex chromosomes (humans have 44 or 22 pairs)
- Sex Chromosomes: XX or XY (23rd pair for humans) determines the sex of the offspring

The first 22 pairs of homologous chromosomes are called **autosomes** or autosomal chromosomes.

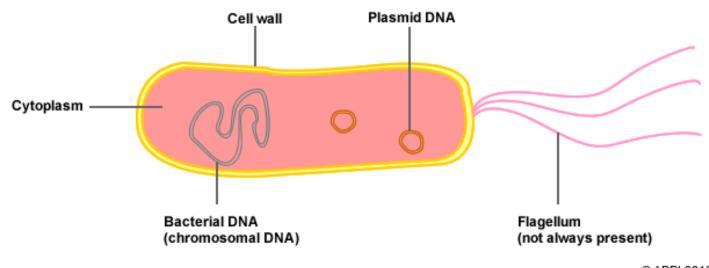
The 23rd pair of chromosomes determines the sex of the individual and are called **sex chromosomes**.

The sex chromosomes of a female are **XX**. The sex chromosomes of a male are **XY**.





Prokaryotic Chromosome Structure



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- Prokaryotes have a one single loop of DNA
- Where is the nucleus?
 - THERE IS NO NUCLEUS! IT'S A PROKARYOTIC CELL! ONLY EUKARYOTIC CELLS HAVE A NUCLEUS!