## 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 23
chromosomes 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 only visible when a cell is dividing 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 (23 ${ }^{\text {rd }}$ 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 $\mathbf{X X}$.
The sex chromosomes of a male are $\mathbf{X Y}$.


## 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!

