

Name:

Date:

# DNA Bracelet Activity

How does the chemical molecule, DNA, carry so much information? It is very similar to how our alphabet of only 26 letters is used to convey limitless amounts of information. The DNA “alphabet” consists of only four “letters” (G, A, T, C) instead of 26, but the entire human DNA code contains over 5 billion G, A, T, and C’s! Each of these letters represents a nitrogenous base and they are paired in a specific way along a DNA molecule.

What to do:

1. Choose a color for each nitrogenous base:

A= \_\_\_\_\_

T= \_\_\_\_\_

C= \_\_\_\_\_

G= \_\_\_\_\_

2. In a random order, string 21 beads (or how many fit around your wrist) and write down the order of the nitrogenous bases you have.
  
3. With a longer string, make the complementary strand. Remember A and T are base pairs; and C and G are base pairs. Write the nitrogenous bases for the complementary pair

4. Take the two bracelets and tie them together. Ask the teacher for assistance if needed.

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