

Edible DNA

Materials:

- ❖ Gummy Bears
- ❖ Toothpicks

Procedure:

1. Choose 4 or 5 gummy bears and lay them out end to end.
2. Poke toothpicks through the heads and feet of your gummy bears to make one strand of your gummy helix
3. Obtain the gummy pairs that pair with your first strand: red to yellow and orange to green.
4. Repeat step two to make your second strand.
5. Poke holes through the middle of the gummies to connect the two strands together.
6. Hold the top and bottom of the gummy ladder and twist to complete the double helix strand.



What is DNA made of?

DNA is a nucleic acid, which is the part of the cell that contains molecules that store information. DNA is made of a pattern of four different nucleotides, which are bound on one end to a phosphate group and on the other to a nitrogenous base. The nitrogenous base can be one of four types: adenine, cytosine, guanine or thymine. The nucleotides are joined in long strings to make up DNA and these two strands twist together to create DNA's characteristic double helix. Each strand has the sugar or phosphate end of the nucleotides. The sides are joined together by pairs of complementary nucleotides.