

WILD ABOUT GENETICS

DNA is the CODE that makes up all living things. It is made of two strands twisted into a helix and STORED IN EVERY CELL of an organism. We can look at DNA to learn more about an animal, like RZSS WILDGENES do for CAPERCAILLIE!

STEP ONE

Take your piece of fruit and PLACE IT in your plastic zip bag. SQUASH YOUR FRUIT through the plastic until it's like a puree.

STEP TWO

Add 100ML OF WATER to the bag.

STEP THREE

ADD A SQUIRT of your separation fluid to break down the cell walls.

STEP FOUR

Add a GOOD PINCH OF SALT. This makes the DNA clump together.

STEP FIVE

Gently SQUEEZE THE MIXTURE TOGETHER.

STEP SIX

Put filter paper in the funnel. CAREFULLY POUR the mixture through and into a cup.

STEP SEVEN

Slowly trickle alcohol into the cup using a spoon. ALLOW THE ALCOHOL TO SIT ON TOP of the fruit mixture until you have roughly the same amount of each.

STEP EIGHT

After a minute or two you should start to SEE SOME STRINGY, WHITE CLOUDS floating up from the mixture into the alcohol - that's the DNA coming out of solution!

Squashing the fruit helps us to GET TO INDIVIDUAL CELLS

Filtering your mixture MIGHT TAKE A FEW MINUTES!

CONGRATULATIONS!
You have successfully
extracted DNA!