Task 1

Complete the sentences using your knowledge and the keywords below.

chromosomes		Chromosomes are found inside the of a cell.		
	90 90	There are pairs of chromosomes in every human		
		body cell.		
		One of each pair of chromosomes comes from		
		each		
		Chromosomes are made up of long lengths of		
genes	a gene	A gene is a short section of a Each gene for a different Genes work in There are different versions of each gene, one is often over the others.		
DNA		DNA is short for It is a long chain that is made up of a combination of DNA bases. DNA has a special structure called a		

Keywords

4	DNA	pairs	double	nucleus	characteristic	chromosome
23	codes	helix	molecule	parent	dominant	deoxyribonucleic acid

Task 2

Draw lines to match up the beginning and the end of the sentences relating to chromosomes, genes and DNA.

DNA is short for ...

... called a double helix.

Chromosomes contain many genes that ...

... deoxyribonucleic acid.

Genetic material is found...

... 4 DNA bases.

There are 23 pairs ...

... controlled by genes.

DNA is a molecule made up of a combination of ...

... of a chromosome.

We inherit our genes ...

... code for our characteristics.

Each gene is a short section ...

... long coiled chains of DNA.

Chromosomes are made up of ...

... of chromosomes in the nucleus of a body cell.

DNA has a special structure ...

... in the nucleus of each cell.

Our characteristics are ...

... from our parents.

Task 3 – dominoes game

Cut up the cards and complete each sentence.

controlled by genes.	START: DNA is short for	
in the nucleus of each cell.	There are 23 pairs	
deoxyribonucleic acid.	Chromosomes contain many genes that	
of chromosomes in the nucleus of a body cell.	DNA is a molecule made up of a combination of	
from our parents.	Each gene is a short section	
code for our characteristics.	Genetic material is found	
4 DNA bases.	We inherit our genes	
long coiled chains of DNA.	DNA has a special structure	
called a double helix.	Our characteristics are	
of a chromosome.	Chromosomes are made up of	

Teaching notes and answers

This activity sheet can be used to introduce the topic of chromosomes, genes and DNA (with teacher explanation) or could be used as part of a recap lesson. It covers the basic structure of chromosomes, genes and DNA and some key facts.

Task 3 is a dominoes game which could be used as an alternative to Task 2. Cut up the cards before the lesson to save time.

Task 1

chromosomes		Chromosomes are found inside the nucleus of a cell. There are 23 pairs of chromosomes in every human body cell. One of each pair of chromosomes comes	
chror		from each parent . Chromosomes are made up of long lengths of DNA .	
genes	a gene	A gene is a short section of a <i>chromosome</i> . Each gene <i>codes</i> for a different <i>characteristic</i> . Genes work in <i>pairs</i> . There are different versions of each gene, one is often <i>dominant</i> over the others.	
DNA		DNA is short for <i>deoxyribonucleic acid</i> . It is a long chain <i>molecule</i> that is made up of a combination of <i>4</i> DNA bases. DNA has a special structure called a <i>double helix</i> .	

Task 2 and 3 answers **DNA** is short for ... deoxyribonucleic acid. **Chromosomes contain many genes that** ... code for our characteristics. Genetic material is found ... in the nucleus of each cell. There are 23 pairs ... of chromosomes in the nucleus of a body cell. **DNA** is a molecule made up of a combination of ... 4 DNA bases. We inherit our genes ... from our parents. **Each gene is a short section** ... of a chromosome. Chromosomes are made up of ... long coiled chains of DNA. **DNA has a special structure** ... called a double helix.

Our characteristics are ... controlled by genes.