DNA ORIGAMI

Make your own decorative DNA Model! (It's easier than it looks)

Origami is the Japanese art of paper folding, dating back to the 6th century. It's also the foundation of a branch of mathematics that studies folding patterns. This field of mathematics has applications to genetic research and the study of complex biological systems. The pattern below was adapted from yourgenome.org, and can be printed on normal copy paper.

Color in or add designs to the pattern below. Be creative! Carefully cut out the pattern along the outside edges and follow the step-by-step folding instructions (with pictures) at www.emiliysuvada.com/extras/DNA-Origami. If you can't get online, follow the instructions below, making sure that you are making crisp, clean folds.

Folding Instructions (Cut out first, and make crisp folds)
1) Make a horizontal mountain fold along the bold midline, doubling over the paper so the lines are visible.
2) Starting on the side with bold vertical lines, make 10 mountain folds along the vertical lines (the model should curl into a spiral)
3) Flip over, and make diagonal mountain folds along the 11 bold diagonal lines (the model should twist into a helix)
4) Carefully fold the two lettered edge flaps in lengthwise, making mountain folds along the bold lines so the letters are visible.
5) Starting at one end, use ALL the vertical and diagonal folds you have created to carefully fold up the model like a concertina. It should fold into a flat octagonal shape.
6) Gently unfurl the model and lift up the edge flaps, running your fingernail or fingertips slowly along the edge flaps to uncrease them. You now have a DNA origami model!

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Adapted from the design created by Dr Alex Bateman for Genome Research Limited, at https://www.yourgenome.org/activities/origami-dna (Accessed 2017)