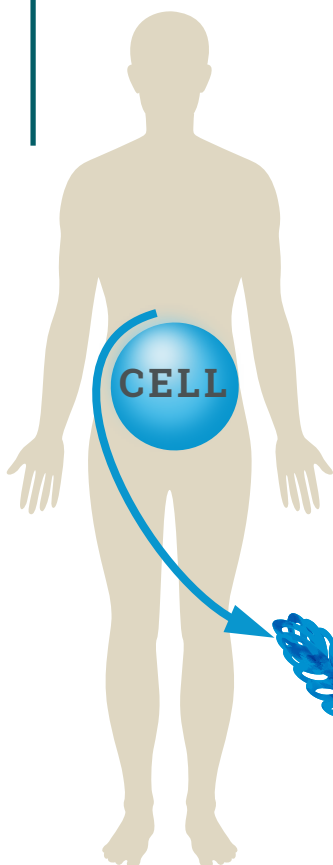




INTRODUCTION TO GENETICS

WHAT IS YOUR GENOME?



- Your **genome** can be thought of as a book that contains the instructions to life.
- **Chromosomes** are the chapters in this book.
- **DNA** are the words written across the pages.
- The 3,000,000,000 units of DNA that make up your genome are packaged into 23 pairs of chromosomes and exist in every cell of your body

WHAT ARE GENES & WHAT DO THEY DO?

- **Genes** are important paragraphs interspersed throughout the book and only make up 1.5% of your genome. You have 20,000 – 25,000 genes.

- Genes contain information for human traits and the biological building blocks for your cells.

- To make these building blocks, your body makes a photocopy of the required paragraphs, generating a copy of the gene called **RNA**

- The **RNA** is then used by your body to make your biological building blocks called **proteins**.

