



Like the lanyards created in this activity, there are strands of DNA in our bodies which make us who we are. **DNA** is the material that carries all of the information about how a living thing will look and function. For instance, DNA in humans determines such things as what color the eyes are and how the lungs work. Each piece of information is carried on a different section of the DNA. These sections are called **genes**.

Our **cells** are like little factories, and each factory makes a different product. Some factories make bones, some make skin, some make our eyes and basically everything in our bodies!

Our DNA is the instruction guide for these factories - or our cells - to program them to make these parts of our bodies. The instructions look just like your lanyards - they are called **double helixes**. They look like twisted ladders.

Everyone's DNA is different, making each of us special and unique. Even comparing 2 children with HPP, we find that their DNA can look different!

There is so much to learn about DNA, your cells and your genetics.

Want to learn more? Visit the following resources:

<https://www.brainpop.com/health/geneticsgrowthanddevelopment/dna/>

<https://owlcation.com/academia/explaining-dna-to-a-six-year-old>

<https://www.ducksters.com/science/biology/dna.php>

<https://www.softbones.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/genetic-overview-of-hpp.pdf>

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