

Mobile Science Lab

Salk's Mobile Science Lab is a FREE multi-day biotechnology program serving middle schools throughout San Diego County. The in-classroom program provides a unique opportunity for students to learn about genetics and DNA from real scientists, all supplies provided.

The Salk Institute is a world renowned laboratory on the cutting edge of genetics research. During the 3-day mobile science lab curriculum students conduct experiments designed to illustrate that traits are coded for by a set of instructions called DNA.

Students not only learn about the history, structure, and function of DNA but also the techniques that are used everyday in real labs to analyze DNA, as well as an array of careers in STREAM (Science.Technology.Reading.Engineering.Art.Math) in San Diego's "Biotech Beach" to inspire students.

- Day 1: Students look at populations of fruit flies under a microscope to learn about the uses of model organisms, the effects of genetic transmission, and mutations.
- Day 2: Students extract actual DNA from wheat germ & see how just 4 base pairs make you-you & me-me.
- Day 3: Students simulate techniques used to analyze DNA fragments by learning to micropipette & conducting gel electrophoresis.

All the necessary supplies & scientists are provided by Salk Institute & brought directly to the classroom.



Discovering DNA

- * Open to all middle schools (6th-8th) in San Diego County
- * 3 days of hands-on labs, scientists & supplies included
- * Teachers pick their schedule, M-F
- * Pre & post visit support; more labs, STREAM activities, videos, reflections, & a SciChat@Salk on the topic of your choice
- * Editable docs & answer keys in English & Spanish
- * NGSS Standard Alignment: MS-LS1-1, MS-LS1-2, MS-LS3-1, MS-LS3-2, & MS-PS4-3
- *Bonus Option: free teacher workshop for Salk's Activity Kits; equips you to use 3 free biotechnology 'labs-in-a-box,' year-around





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