Discussion Leader Activity: Unlabeled Posters

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Created for: Bio Sci 97

Activity Type: Small group poster making / presentations

Time Needed in Discussion: 40 minutes

Purpose

• To provide thorough understanding of replication, transcription and translation.

Abstract

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-class prep (make index cards)</th>
<th>2 min</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Explain project, get into groups</td>
<td>5 min</td>
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<tr>
<td>Groups make wordless posters</td>
<td>10-15 min</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trade posters and label / correct</td>
<td>5-10 min</td>
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<tr>
<td>Review posters as a class</td>
<td>20-25 min</td>
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</tbody>
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Supplies

• Note cards with topics: DNA replication leading strand, DNA replication lagging strand, RNA translation, RNA transcription, RNA processing, Eukaryotes vs. Prokaryotes

• Poster paper, colored markers

Pre-class prep: None.

In Class

This activity worked well as a review session for the end-of-week 2: gene expression, transcription and translation.

1. (2-3 min) Have students count off 1-6 to for eight groups of 4-5 students. Each group is assigned a topic using the note cards.

2. (10-15 min) The class makes posters of each topic but I made sure that those posters included NO WORDS. I allowed them to write sequences of DNA or RNA (allowing for Shine-Dalgarno, etc.) but those DNA/RNA sequences were the only letters on the poster. (10 min)

3. (5-10 min) Students hand their poster to the group to their left (or whatever) and label the new poster they receive. Students can consult with the poster’s creator group to discuss problems or confusions.

4. (20-25 min) Each group presents the poster they labeled. I could ask questions of the class and make any corrections needed. Keep the non-presenting students on task by having them get out their lecture notes and make notes as the presentations are made.
Comments

- Keeping the students on task can be difficult. Reminding them of time limits helps.
- Students should not be allowed to bad-mouth the group that originally made the poster.

This activity edited by Adrienne Williams