DNA & RNA



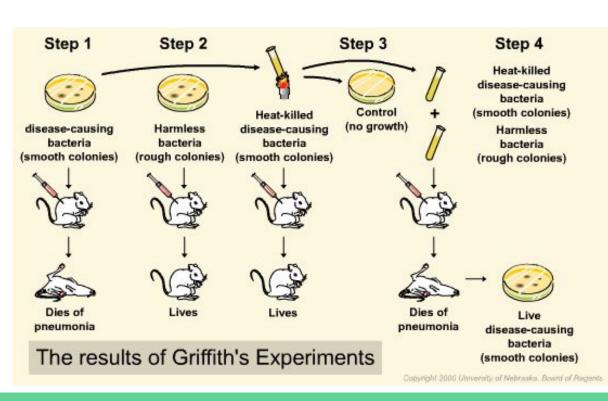
Unit 7 Chapter 12

Chapter 12.1 DNA

Discovery the chemical nature of the gene was the first step to understanding genetics

In 1928, British scientist,
Frederick Griffith, was
studying bacterial
transmission of pneumonia.



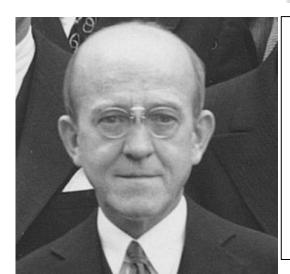


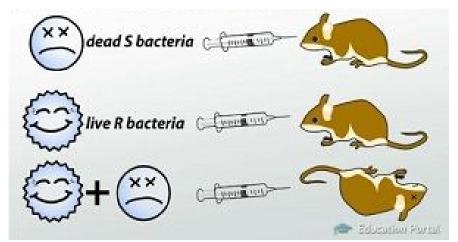
Griffith called this process <u>transformation</u>:
One strain of bacteria had apparently been changed permanently into the the other.

Griffith hypothesized that the information from the altered bacteria must have been

passed on

In 1944, a
Canadian
biologist, Oswald
Avery repeated
Griffith's
experiment.





- smooth (S) bacteria strain pathogenic
 - rough (R) bacteria strain non-pathogenic



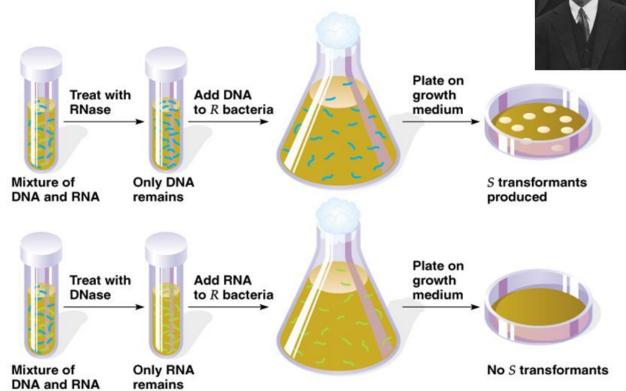


sugar coat protein RNA

DNA

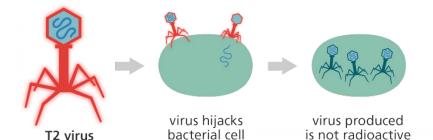
Oswald T. Avery's Transformation Experiment - 1944

Determined that "IIIS" DNA was the genetic material responsible for Griffith's results (not RNA).



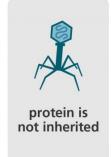
Avery
discovered that
DNA was
responsible for
the
"transforming"
factor.

In 1952, two American scientists, Alfred Hershey and Martha Chase, were studying viruses that infect bacteria.

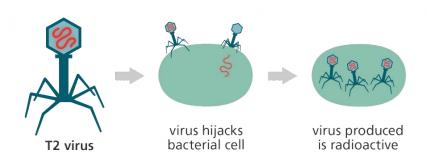


with radioactively labelled protein coat

with radioactively labelled DNA



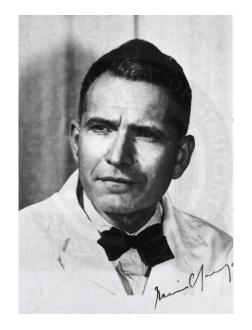


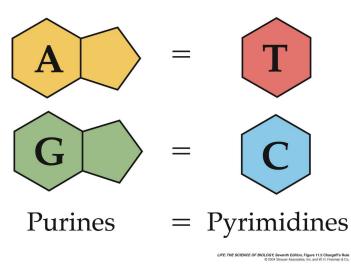


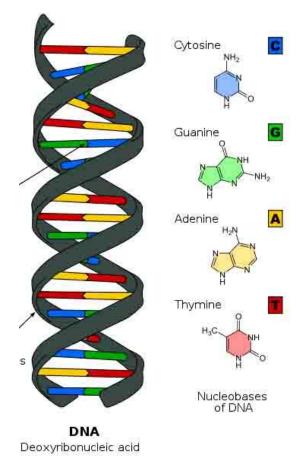


They discovered that the genetic material of the bacteriophage (virus) was DNA, not the protein coat.

In 1950, an American biochemist, Erwin Chargaff published his studies discovered the chemical composition of nitrogen based pairs of a DNA strand. Now called Chargaff's rules.







Also in the 1950's, a British scientist, Rosalind Franklin, took x-rays of DNA to discern the pattern of the structure. Her x-ray photographs were the first hint at the double helix structure of DNA.



