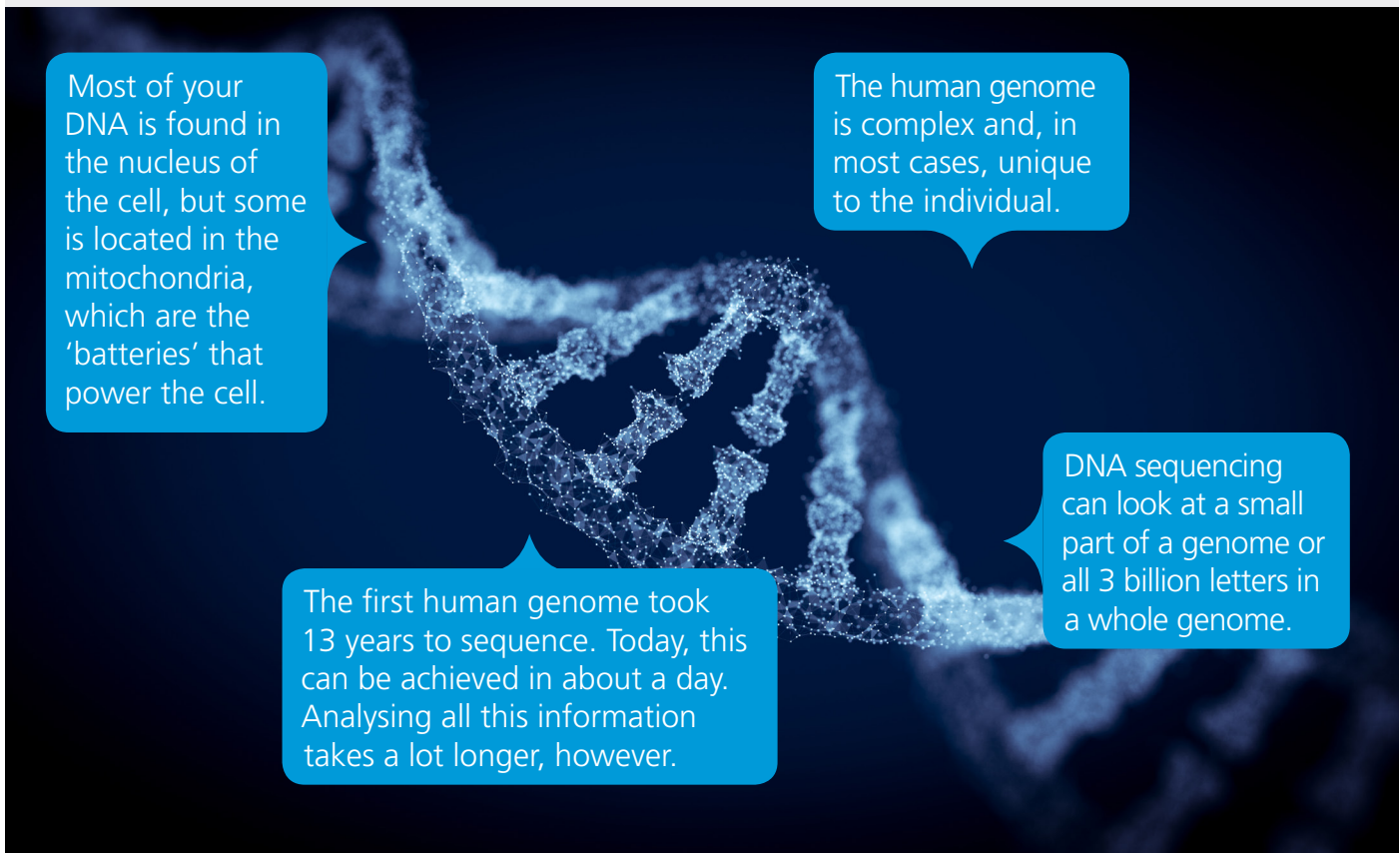


Sequencing the genome

Key facts

- The genome is all the DNA in a cell. A copy of your genome can be found in nearly every cell in your body.
- All living organisms have a genome. Most are made up of DNA apart from some virus genomes, which are made of a similar molecule called RNA.
- A genome contains all the information needed to build that organism and allow it to grow and develop.
- The study of genomes is called genomics. Genetics is the study of individual genes.
- Whole genome sequencing is a technique used to read or map an individual's genome.

Did you know?



Most of your DNA is found in the nucleus of the cell, but some is located in the mitochondria, which are the 'batteries' that power the cell.

The human genome is complex and, in most cases, unique to the individual.

The first human genome took 13 years to sequence. Today, this can be achieved in about a day. Analysing all this information takes a lot longer, however.

DNA sequencing can look at a small part of a genome or all 3 billion letters in a whole genome.



Find out more

Watch our animation 'What is the genome?': www.bit.ly/what-genome

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