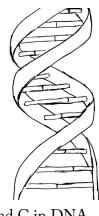
DNA Tower Activity

You will need four different colors of LEGO bricks, at least six of each. In this activity, you are going to build several towers that are twelve rows high with the four different colors to see how different combinations you can make. Use the process as you build:

- 1. Collect the four different colors of bricks, such as red, yellow, green and blue. Try to collect at least six of each color as well as different sizes of bricks.
- 2. Decide what the color combinations will be. In other words, if you have red, yellow, green and blue. You can choose that red and yellow will go together, just like the A and T in DNA, and green and blue will go together, just like the G and C in DNA.
- 3. Make a tower that has twelve rows. As you build, remember that a certain color can only pair with other color you have chosen, and that each row can only have two bricks. (Note -You should be able to come up with many different combinations, just like DNA.)
- 4. Now that you have created a DNA ladder, use it to write a gene sentence. First you will need to assign each color a letter. For example, red would be "R", yellow would be "Y", green would be "G", and blue would be "B".
- 5. Next, write down your codons, or 3 letter words, from top to bottom and left to right. As you work your way through the tower, you will create a unique gene-like sentence.

Take a picture of your tower or draw it in the box below. Then, write your gene sentence on the lines provided.

	Ny Gene Sentence
My DNA Tower]



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