History of DNA Timeline

FRIEDRICH MIESCHER (1869)



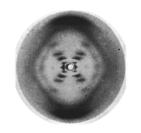
- Swiss phyician and biologist
- Discovered DNA from Hoppe-Seyler (his professor in university) giving him task to research composition of lymphoid cells
 - Difficult to extract
 - Easier to find in pus and infection so he collected used bandages to experiment
 - Unintentionally discovered DNA (called nuclein at that time) in a cell's nucleus

ERWIN CHARGAFF (1950)



- Austro-Hungarianborn American biochemist
- Discovered amount of adenine to thymine equaled amount of cytosine to guanine
 - Didn't not matter if plant or animal
 - Didn't matter where DNA was from
 - Proportion of nitrogenous bases
- Discovered percentages of adenine to thymine and cytosine to guanine vary between different species

ROSALIND FRANKLIN (1952)



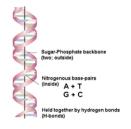
- From King's College London with Wilkins
 - They didn't get along well so they didn't work together
- She was very open with her researchers, enabling many people to access her data
- Specialised in X-ray crystallography
- Took the famous Photograph 51 (pictured above)
 - Fibre diffraction image of paracrystalline gel composed of DNA

MAURICE WILKINS



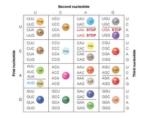
- From King's College London with Franklin
 - Did not get along so did not work together
- Showed Watson and Crick Franklin's photo
 51
 - Without Franklin's notice or permission
 - The imagine indicated DNA strands were double helices

JAMES WATSON (1963)



- American geneticist and biophysicist from 20th century
- 1962 nobel prize for physiology or medicine with Crick and Wilkins
- Saw in 1953 that four organic bases must be linked in pairs
 - Led to solid idea of double helix with bases on the inside
 - Sugarphosphate ladder
 - Also explained DNA duplication

FRANCIS CRICK (1963)



- English biophysicist
- 1962 nobel prize for physiology or medicine with Crick and Wilkins
- Had evidence on codons and placement of amino acids
 - Helped determine what codon coded what amino acid