Module 6: DNA, RNA, and Molecular Genetics
Topic 3 Content: Ribonucleic Acid Notes

Ribonucleic Acid

Click ***NEXT*** to begin.

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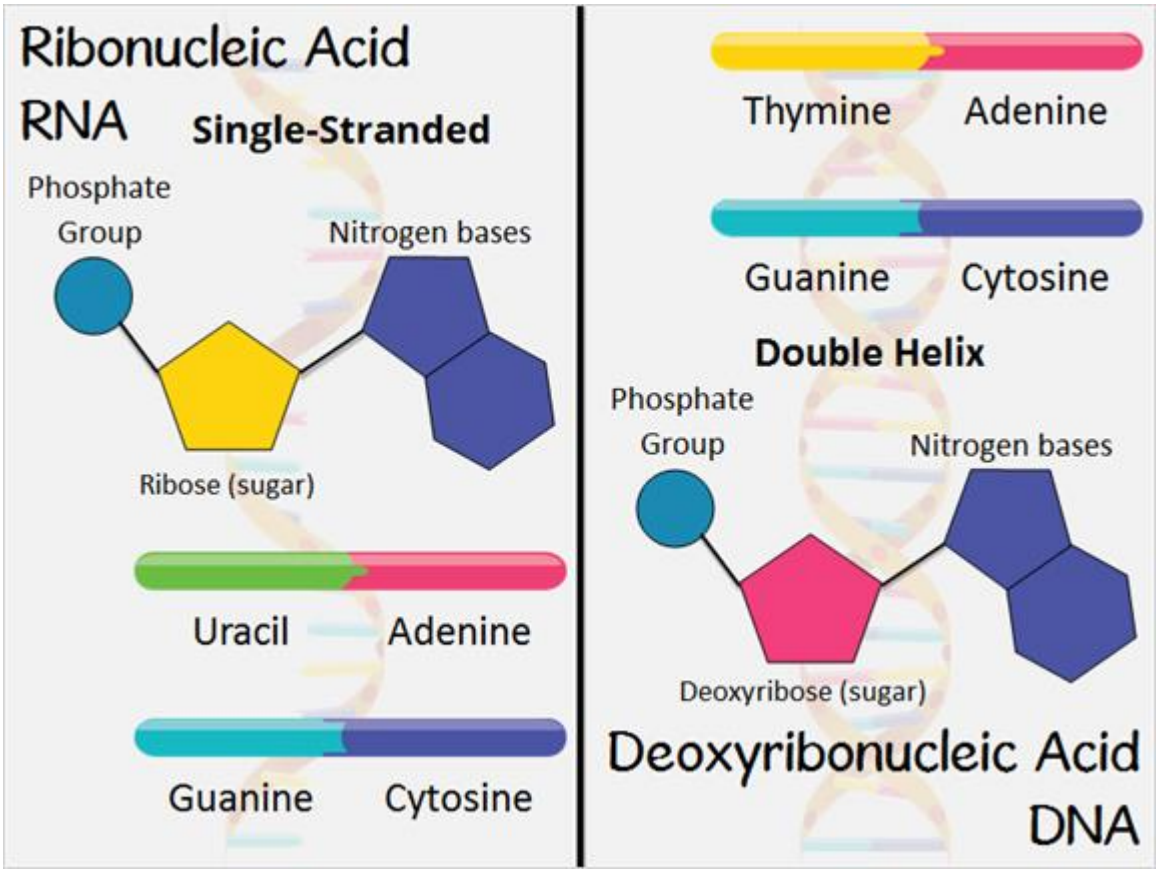
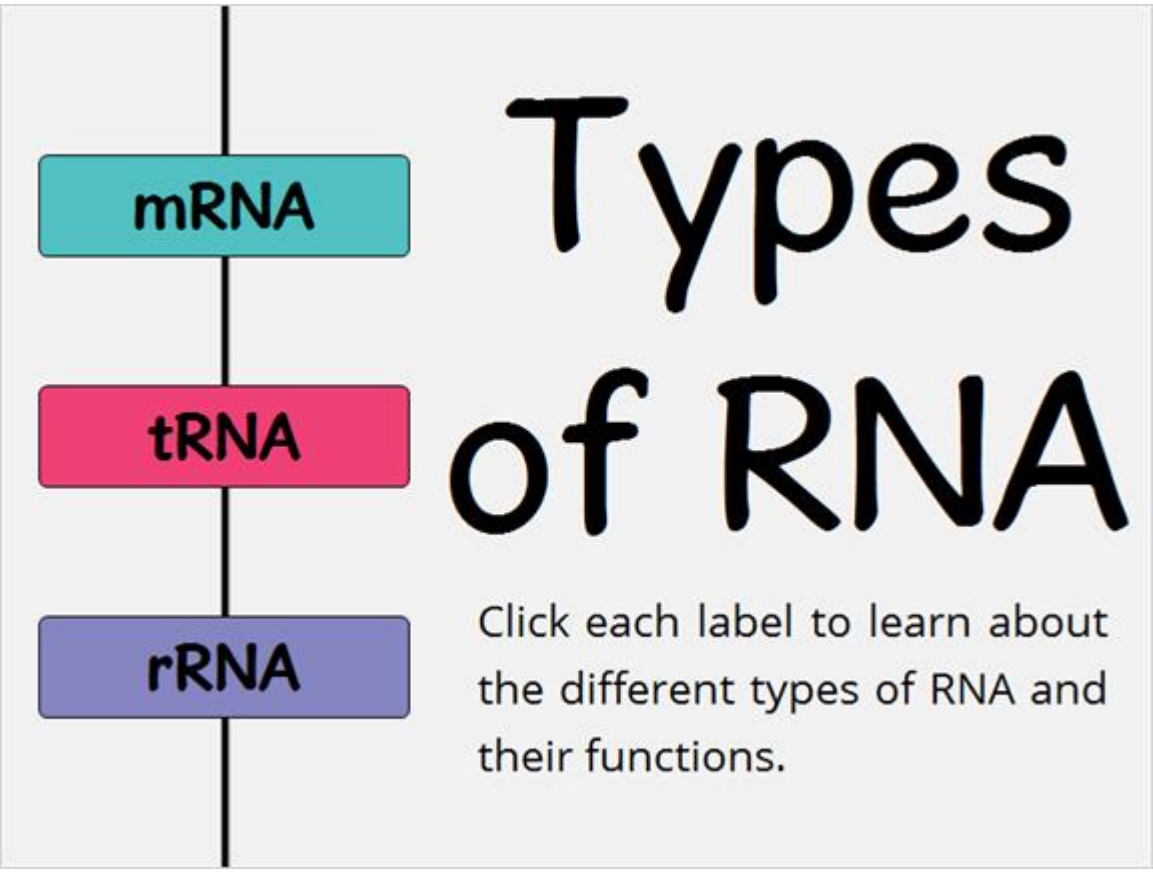
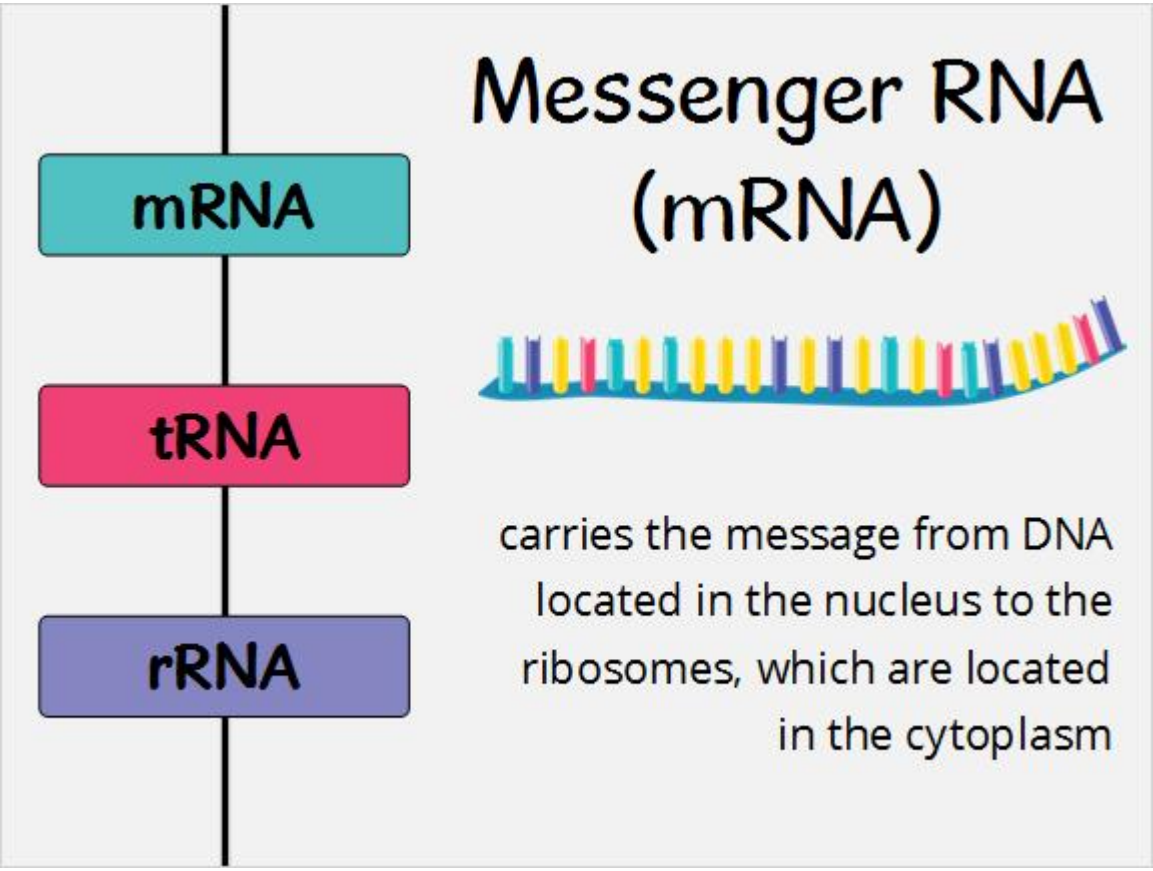


Ribonucleic acid, or RNA, is a nucleic acid similar to DNA. RNA is a chain of nucleotides, which each contain a sugar, a phosphate group, and a nitrogen base. However, RNA is different from DNA in some very important ways. First, the sugar in RNA is ribose instead of deoxyribose. Second, RNA is a single-stranded molecule whereas DNA is a double-helix. And lastly, instead of the base thymine, RNA contains the base uracil. In RNA, adenine is paired with uracil.

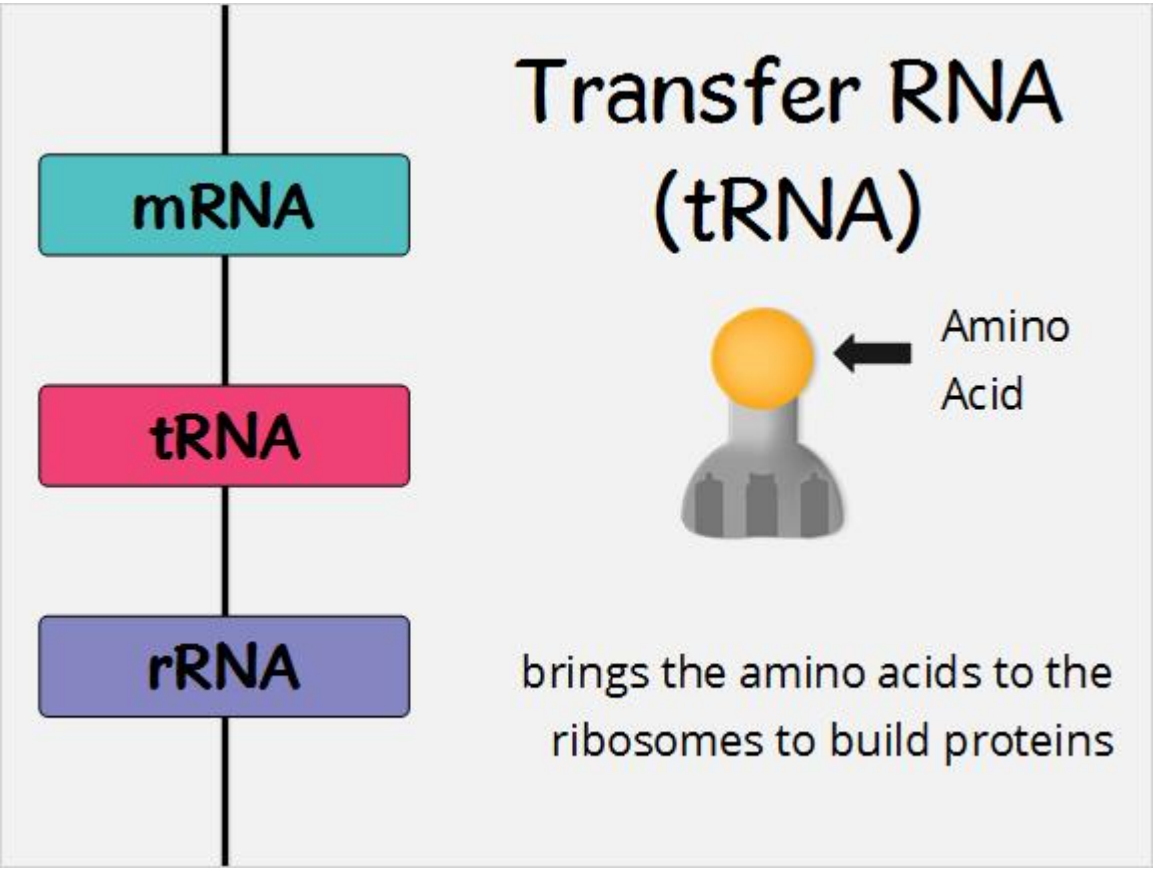


There are three major types of RNA found in the cells of eukaryotic organisms. Each type of RNA plays a role in protein synthesis. Click each tab to learn about the different types of RNA and their functions.



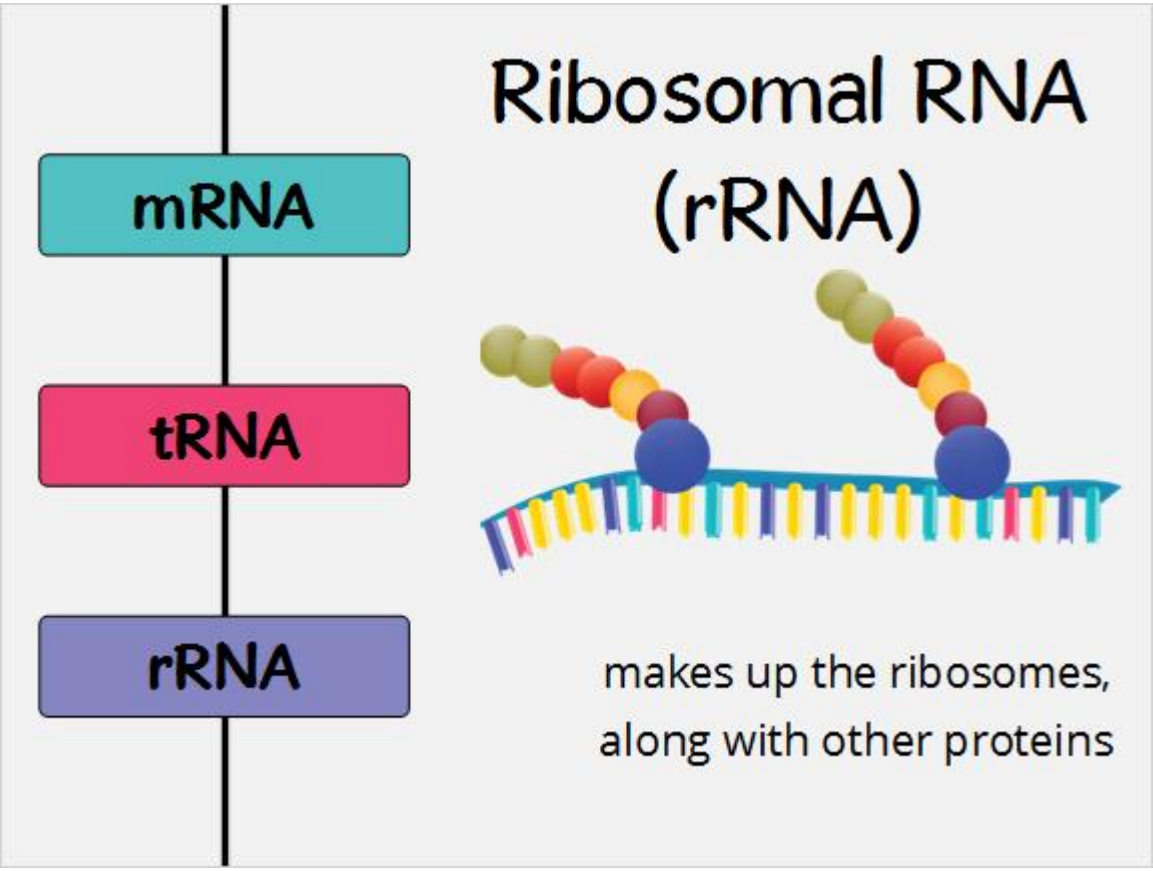
mRNA

Messenger RNA, or mRNA, carries the message from DNA located in the nucleus to the ribosomes, which are located in the cytoplasm.



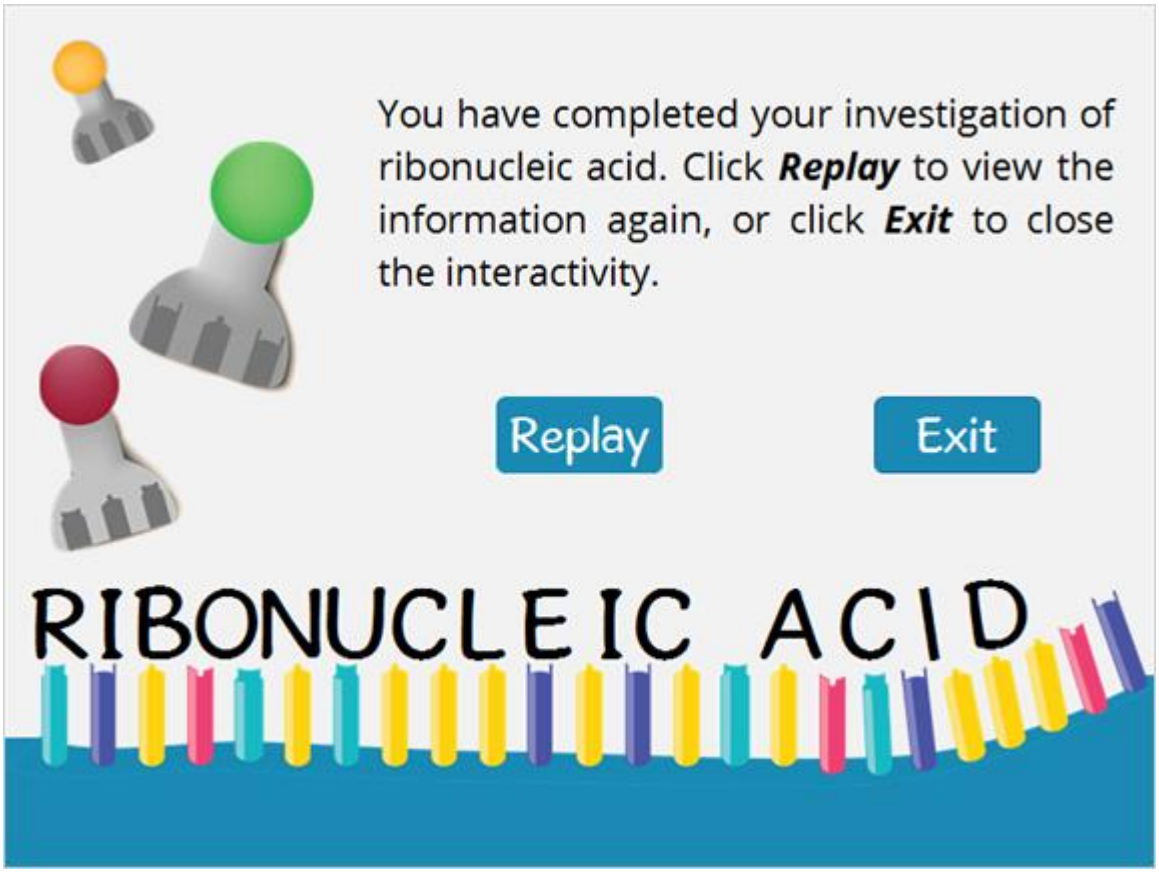
tRNA

Transfer RNA, or tRNA, brings amino acids to the ribosomes to build proteins.



rRNA

Ribosomal RNA, or rRNA makes up the ribosomes, along with other proteins.


You have completed your investigation of ribonucleic acid. Click Replay to view the information again, or click Exit to close the interactivity.
Replay
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RIBONUCLEIC ACID