

DNA extraction - Handout

Instructions

1. Put a small amount of water in a plastic cup. The water should barely cover the bottom of the cup.
2. Put the water in your mouth and swirl it around, chewing your cheeks if you want (this produces extra DNA!)
3. Spit the water out into the cup, try to avoid making too many bubbles when you do this.
4. Add a small pinch of salt to the water.
5. Add one drop of ordinary detergent to the cup.
6. Swirl the mixture around (don't shake too much, we don't want too many bubbles).
7. Transfer the mixture to a Universal tube.
8. Gently pour in alcohol or isopropanol (about the same quantity as water) to form a layer on top of the water.
9. Put the lid on the tube and leave the tubes for a few minutes and the DNA will appear as white clumps, like opaque string.
10. When finished, unscrew tube, and tip everything carefully into a bucket.