

# Edible DNA – inquiry activity

Use the instructions below to create an edible model of DNA

## Equipment needed:

- 2 different coloured liquorice sticks or long sweets
- 1 packet of midget gems or similar
- Cocktail sticks
- Needle and thread

## Method

- ① Take the two colours of long sweets/licuorice straws and cut them into 3cm pieces.
- ② Using the needle and thread, string half the 3cm pieces together alternating the colours.
- ③ Repeat step 2 with the remaining sweets.
- ④ Lay the two chains down side by side so that pieces of the same colour are opposite each other.
- ⑤ Divide the pack of midget gems into four piles of different coloured sweets, Assign each on a letter A, C, G and T.
- ⑥ Pair up the bases on the cocktail sticks making sure G goes with C and A with T always.
- ⑦ Push the end of the cocktail sticks into one of the colours on your chains, joining both chains together. It should look like the rungs of a ladder.
- ⑧ Hold the end of each chain and twist to get the double helix affect.

