

Banana Telomeres

Peel a banana and cut or nibble a bit off the end.
Do the same at the other end and repeat.



This kitchen experiment was created by Tim and Mike. It helps us to understand that each time a cell copies itself a small part of the end called a telomere gets a bit shorter. Over time the telomeres get too short to do their job, which is partly why we age.

We invite you to try this experiment created by artists, scientists and public participants as part of our collaborative project #flowcellular. Through this playful food-based experiment you can discover more about how resilient and clever our bodies are at mending DNA damage every day, and why diseases like cancer happen and when the damage to our cells becomes too much.

To find out more
www.genome.gallery/exhibition/flowcellular
Instagram #flowcellular @wgcenage @saturdaymuseum

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