Unit 1: Lesson 4 – Defending Our DNA: How Cells Protect Against Foreign Genetic Material

Activity 4: Summative Assessment – Constructed Response (CER Format)

A friend tells you they are worried that DNA fragments in their food or in a vaccine could change their own DNA. Using evidence from the animation and what you have learned in this unit about the immune system, explain why their concern is not supported by science. Your response must address at least two cellular defense mechanisms and explain why protection against foreign DNA is important at one or more of the following levels: cellular, individual, generational, or evolutionary.