

Cornell Guided Notes

Biotechnology for Health (Biomedical Innovations) | 2027-04-16

Name

Period

Date

Lesson

Lesson focus

Engineered organism debate

Key words and questions

Prepared details and student notes

Essential question
What is today's target?

Argue whether genetically engineering bacteria to produce medicine is ethically justified despite biosafety risks. Big idea: Genetic engineering offers medical benefits that must be weighed against biosafety risk.

My notes, examples, and questions

Key words
What vocabulary unlocks the lesson?

- recombinant DNA
- restriction enzyme
- ligase
- plasmid
- competent cell

My notes, examples, and questions

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Cornell Notes - Continued

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Must-know ideas
What should I understand by the end?

- Recombinant DNA technology inserts a human gene into a bacterial plasmid to produce a protein like insulin.
- Containment levels and selection markers are engineering controls that reduce escape risk.
- Ethical justification requires weighing patient benefit against probability and severity of harm.

My notes, examples, and questions

Process notes
What happens during class?

- 0-5 min: Warm-up: where does most insulin come from today?
- 5-20 min: Read briefing on recombinant insulin bacteria; choose a position
- 20-40 min: Small-group debate tracking containment and patient-benefit claims
- 40-55 min: Full-class debrief: which biosafety concern was hardest to dismiss?
- 55-70 min: Reflection: what safeguards would change your position?
- 70-80 min: Exit ticket: one sentence on whether benefit justifies risk, with a reason

My notes, examples, and questions

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Steps and evidence What do I do and turn in?

- Read the briefing on a recombinant bacterium engineered to make insulin.
- Choose a side on whether the benefit justifies the risk.
- List two reasons grounded in safety and patient benefit.
- Debate in your group, tracking claims about containment and oversight.
- Reflect on what safeguards would make you more comfortable.

Evidence: Exit ticket - One sentence stating whether engineered-organism benefit justifies biosafety risk, with a specific reason grounded in containment or patient benefit.

My notes, examples, and questions

Checks for understanding How do I know I got it?

- You defended a position on engineered-organism ethics.
- You referenced biosafety and patient benefit.

My notes, examples, and questions

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Cornell Notes - Continued

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Lab or safety notes
What must I handle carefully?

Supplies:

- Micropipettes and sterile tips
- Plasmid DNA sample
- Restriction enzyme and buffer
- DNA ligase
- Competent cells
- Microcentrifuge tubes
- Personal protective equipment

My notes, examples, and questions

Summary

Today's lesson focused on Engineered organism debate. The main target was: Argue whether genetically engineering bacteria to produce medicine is ethically justified despite biosafety risks. The evidence of learning is Exit ticket: One sentence stating whether engineered-organism benefit justifies biosafety risk, with a specific reason grounded in containment or patient benefit.. In my own words, the most important idea from today is:

My summary

My final question or connection