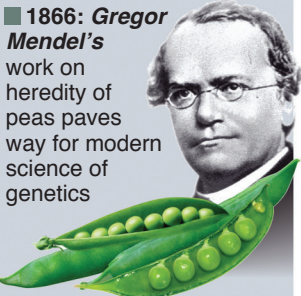


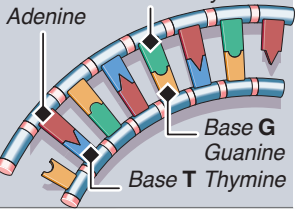
■ **1866: Gregor Mendel's** work on heredity of peas paves way for modern science of genetics



■ **1869: Friedrich Miescher** isolates nucleic acids

■ **1929: Phoebus Levene's** study of nucleic acids shows four-letter code of DNA

Base A Adenine Base C Cytosine



Base G Guanine Base T Thymine



■ **1953: James D. Watson** and **Francis Crick** use x-ray diffraction data to propose spiral double helix structure of DNA

■ **1958-66, Genetic code cracked:** Discovery that DNA's four-letter code can produce all 20 amino acids – building blocks of proteins

■ **1968:** Restriction enzymes – which can slice up DNA – isolated

■ **1977: Frederick Sanger** develops techniques to sequence DNA molecules

■ **1985: Polymerase Chain Reaction** invented. PCR enables unlimited copies of single DNA molecule

Quest for the “Book of Life”

Ten years ago this month, in what was heralded as the start of a new era in human biology and medicine, two rival teams of scientists published their first drafts of the human genome – the 25,000 genes that make up the blueprint for a human being

