



IDENTITY

201602

PURPOSE

WHAT'S YOUR BACKGROUND?

Many of us have heard this question at some point in our lives; but how many of us truly know? How many of us have taken the time to ask questions, to research our family and ancestors? We are all an accumulation of those who came before us. For me, ethnic identity gives a sense of belonging to a group connected by heritage, values, traditions, and language. Knowing about your past and lineage can open doors to a world never even considered.

This Xplorer will take me on a personal journey to discover my ethnic background. My goal is to use the most advanced tool we currently have, which is DNA testing to determine my ethnic background. Once results are in the geographical area furthest away from California will be selected as my destination of travel.

My study, through photographs and video, will focus on landmarks, historical areas, cultural traditions and, of course, architecture. During, and after, my journey I will keep a video diary which I will then share with my peers.





METHOD

As technology advances and the process of DNA testing has become more accessible, many have taken their search to a more biological and accurate level.

Autosomal DNA tests utilize DNA from the 22 pairs of autosomal chromosomes. Autosomal DNA is inherited from both parents. Therefore, an autosomal DNA test may be taken by either a male or a female.

There are currently three major autosomal DNA testing companies available to the public. Family Tree DNA, 23AndMe, and AncestryDNA.

After extensive research on each company, I decided that, for my purposes, Ancestry DNA was the most comprehensive.

DNA

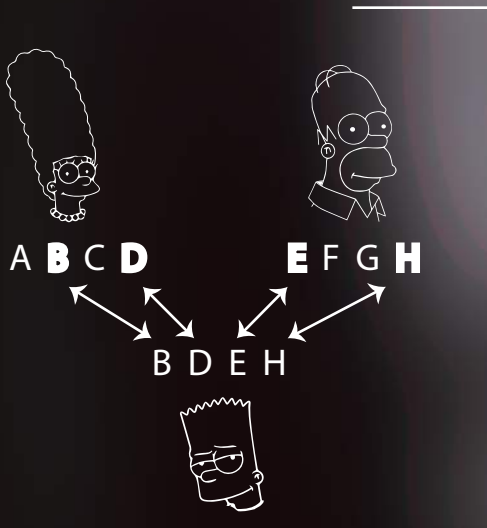
HOW DOES IT WORK?

DNA is like an internal set of blueprints that your body follows
To make you unique.



Your DNA was passed down to you by your ancestors.
DNA is a great tool for family history research.

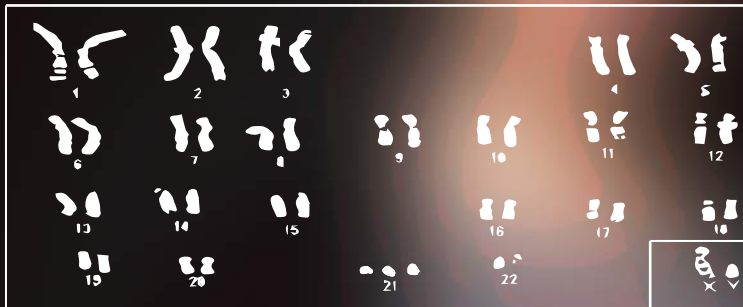
Your get half your DNA from your mother and half from your father.
They got their DNA from their parents, who got it from theirs and so on.



An individual receives a random mix of DNA
from each of their parents.

Ancestry DNA

AncestryDNA is an autosomal DNA test that examines your unique genetic code. They examine 22 pairs of chromosomes inherited by both parents to determine your ethnicity origins.



Humans have 23 pairs of chromosomes. Autosomal DNA takes a look at 22 pairs of chromosomes to determine certain genetic traits.

PROCESS

DNA is extracted from a saliva sample. The DNA is then analyzed by looking at thousands of genetic markers to create your unique profile.

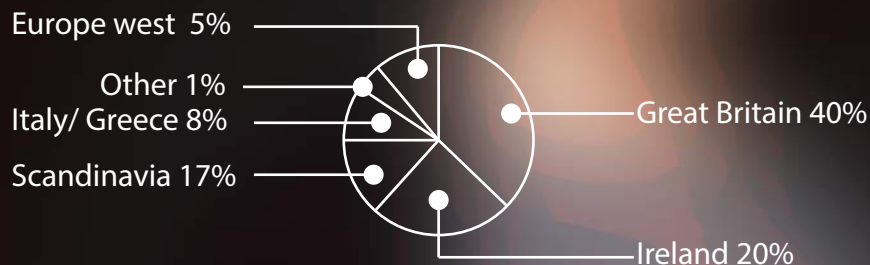
Once your DNA is examined, it is then compared to the genetic profile of 26 distinct regions around the world. By finding similarities between your DNA profile and the regional profile, they can determine where your ancestors came from and how much of your DNA came from each particular region.

Test Results

What will my results tell me?

1. Ancestry DNA will calculate your ethnic background down to percentages.
See example below;

ETHNICITY ESTIMATE FOR CHARLIE BROWN



Charlie Brown



* Charlie Brown has not taken an Ancestry DNA test. The example above is only an estimation based on assumptions and its not to be taken seriously.

PROCESS

Phase 1



Order complete AncestryDNA kit



Provide and return a saliva sample for testing



DNA will be analyzed



Results will be emailed within 6-8 weeks

PROCESS

Phase 2



Once results are in, the geographical area furthest away from California will be selected as my destination of travel.



Plan and research area.



Travel!!!!!!



Explore landmarks, historical areas, cultural traditions and architecture.

DOCUMENTATION

What I will bring back to RRC is a video diary of the entire process. I will document and share my adventure from start to finish.

KEY MOMENTS


Unveiling the result of my DNA test.

Revealing the geographical location that I will visit.

Departure from California.

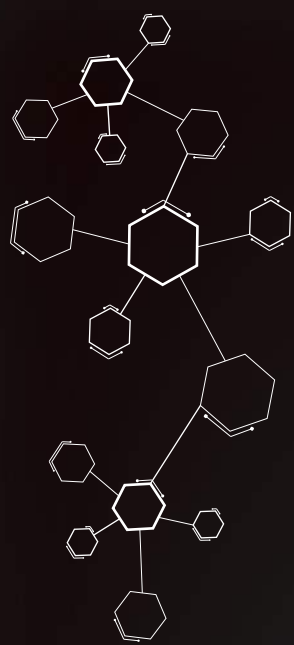
Document visits to historical location, landmarks, architecture, areas of cultural significance.

Summary of my trip, what I learned about the location visited.



**WHERE WILL XPLORE
TAKE ME?**





Studying our Ancestors provides a unique opportunity to discover pieces of ourselves that we didn't know existed. It opens our minds to other cultures beliefs and different ways of life. It makes us travel and enrich our lives with the beauty of the world.

My goal is that through awareness of my origins I can not only enrich my life but also bring curiosity and the will to Xplore to my peers and whomever I share my story with.

Thank you for your time and consideration

XPLORE 2016

