



Chapter 16: DNA Structure and Function

- The history of early research leading to discovery of DNA as the genetic material, the structure of DNA, and its method of replication are described.



Genetic Material

- A. Genetic material must have three things:
 - 1 Store information
 - 2 Stable for replication
 - 3 Mutate for variability



B. Previous Knowledge of DNA

- Needed to know the chemistry
 - 1 Discovery of “nuclein”
 - 2 DNA and RNA discovered
 - 3 Nucleic acids contain 4 types of nucleotides

C. Transformation of Bacteria

1 1931, Griffith
experimented with
Streptococcus pneumoniae.

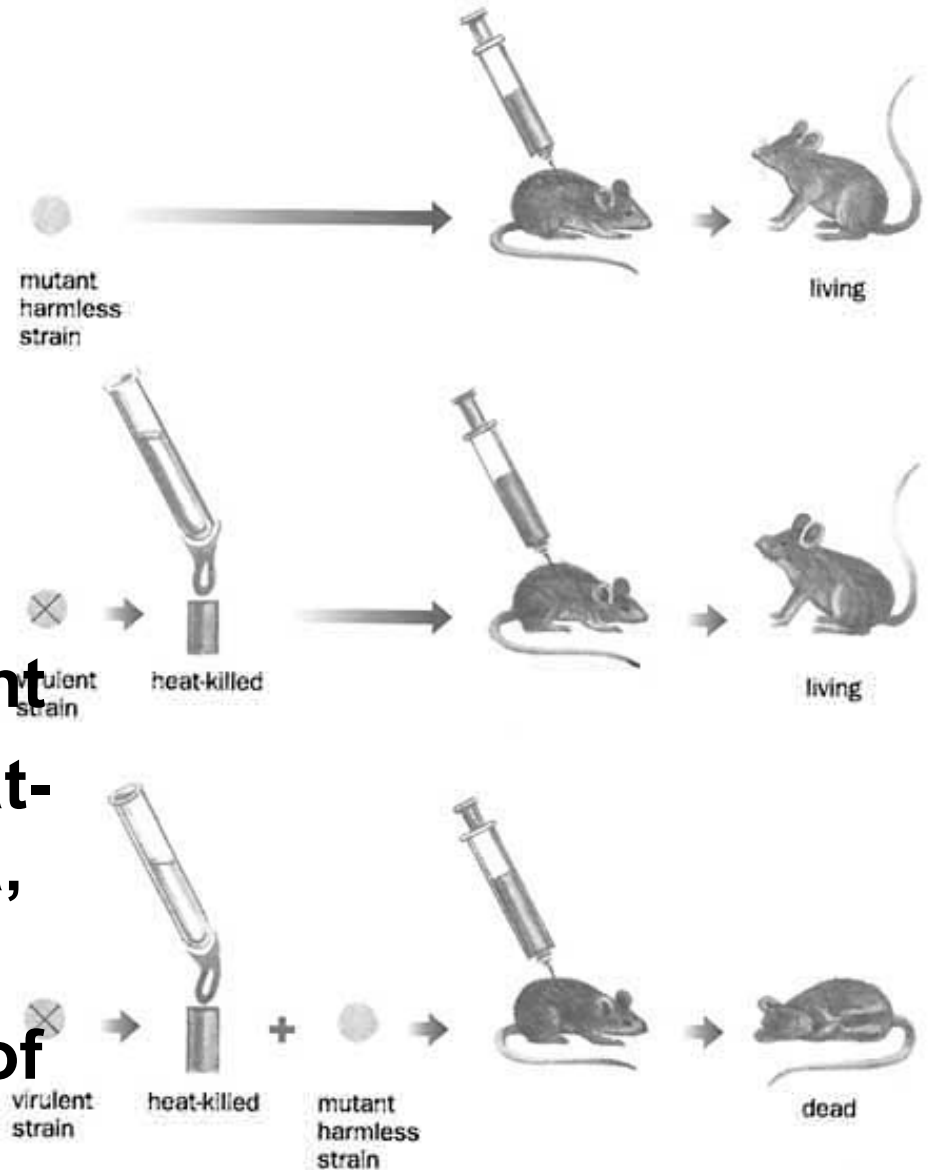
2 Mice injected with (S)
strain and (R) strain.

A. S strain virulent

B. R strain not virulent

3 Injected mice with heat-
killed S strain bacteria,
mice lived.

4 Injected with mixture of
heat-killed and R
strains. **TRANSFORMED**





D. DNA: The Transforming Substance

- 1 Avery said transforming substance was DNA
 - A. DNA from S strain causes R strain to transform.
 - B. Protein degrading enzymes do not stop transformations
 - C. DNA digesting enzymes prevent transformations.
- 2 Bacteria can take up DNA.

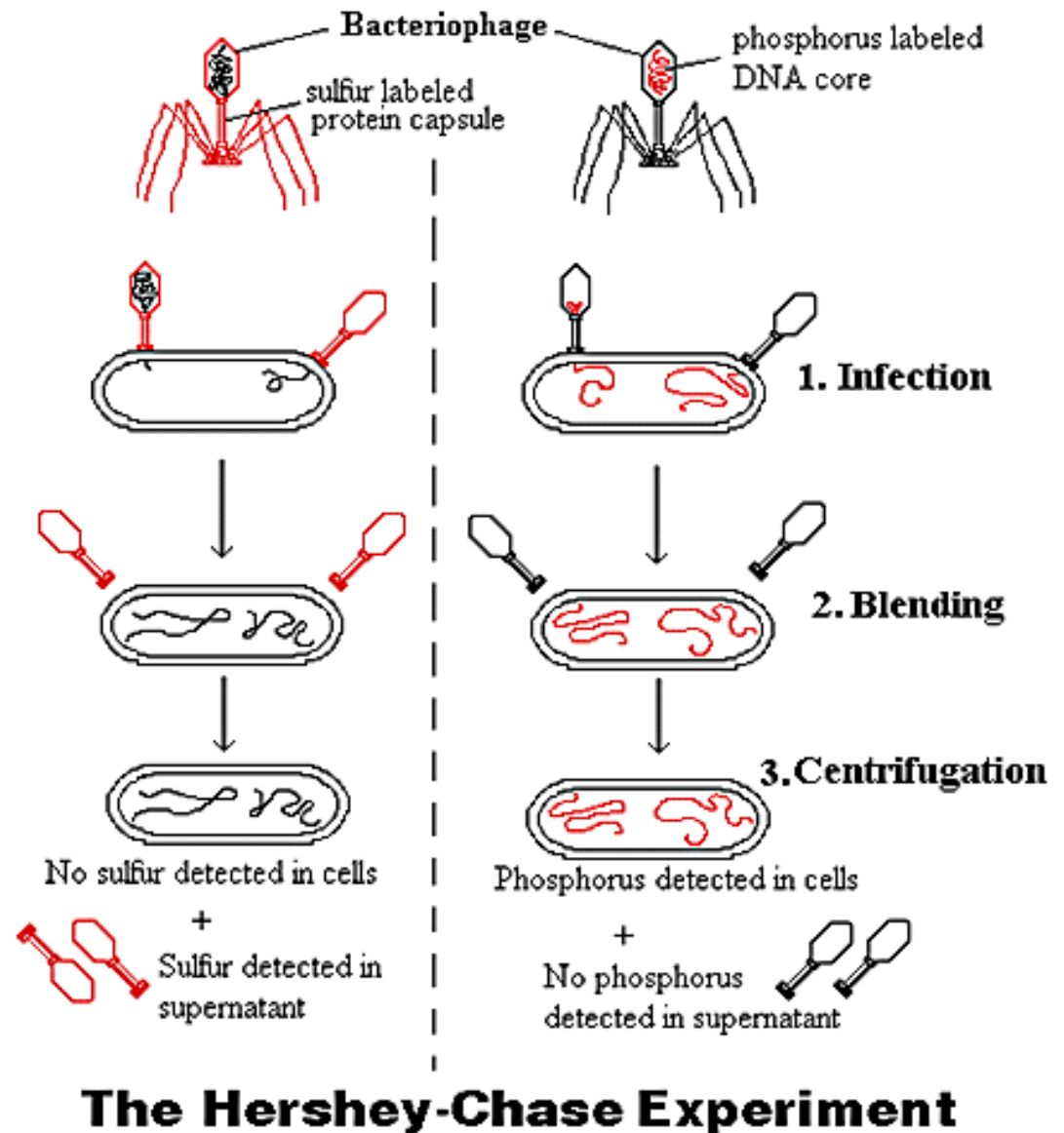
E. Reproduction of Viruses

1 Bacteriophage =
virus infecting
bacteria

2 Bacteriophage T2
infects *e.coli*.

3 1952, Hershey
and Chase use
Bacteriophage T2

A. Purpose was
to determine if
protein coat or
DNA entered
bacterial cells.



14.2 Structure of DNA

A . Nucleotide Data

1 1940' s, Chargaff analyzed base of DNA:

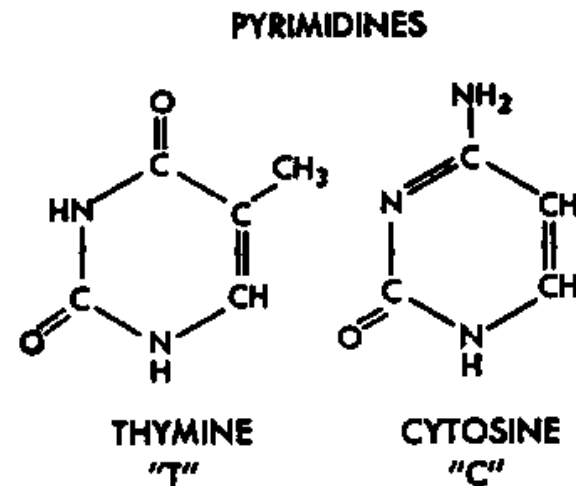
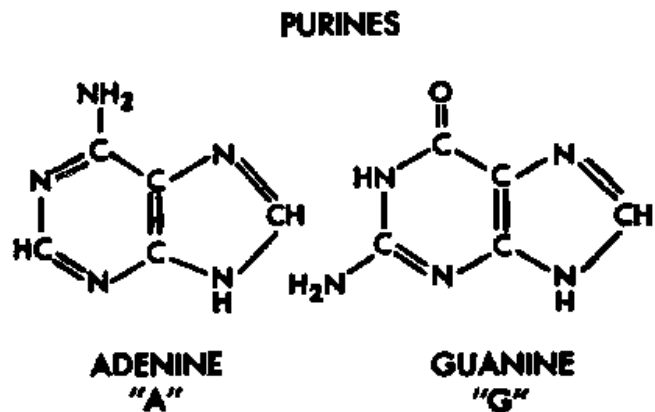
A. **Purine** = **adenine** and **guanine**.

B. **Pyrimidine** = **thymine** and **cytosine**.

2 Chargaff Rules:

A. G, C, A, and T in DNA varies

B. $A=T$ and $G=C$

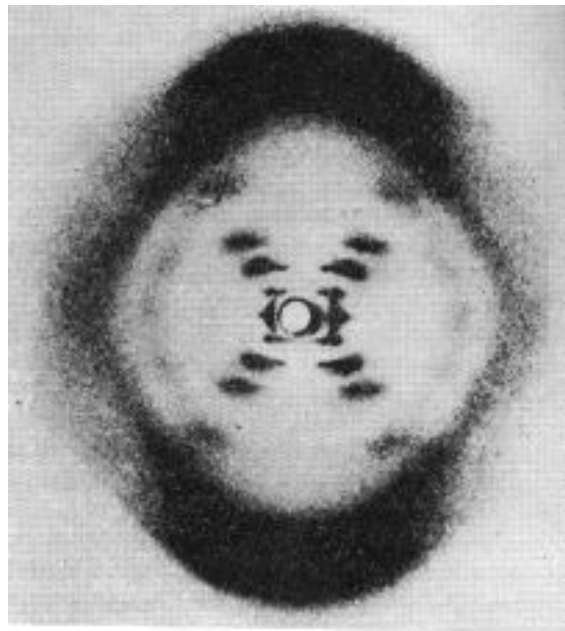


B. Diffraction Data

1 Franklin produced X-Ray diffraction photographs.

A. DNA is a helix.

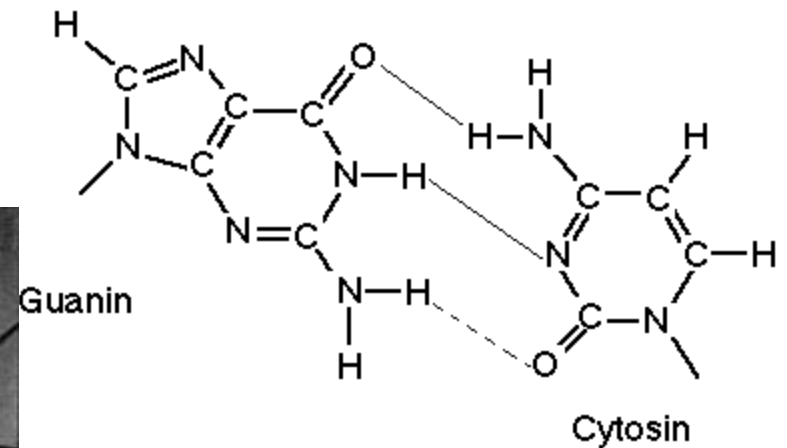
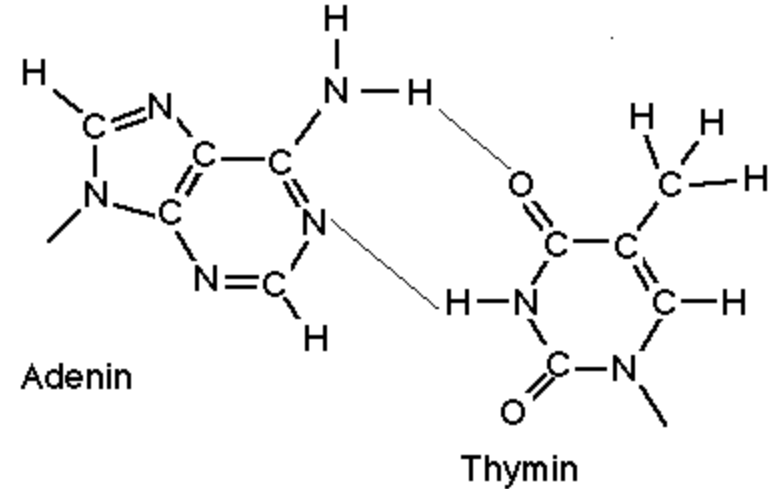
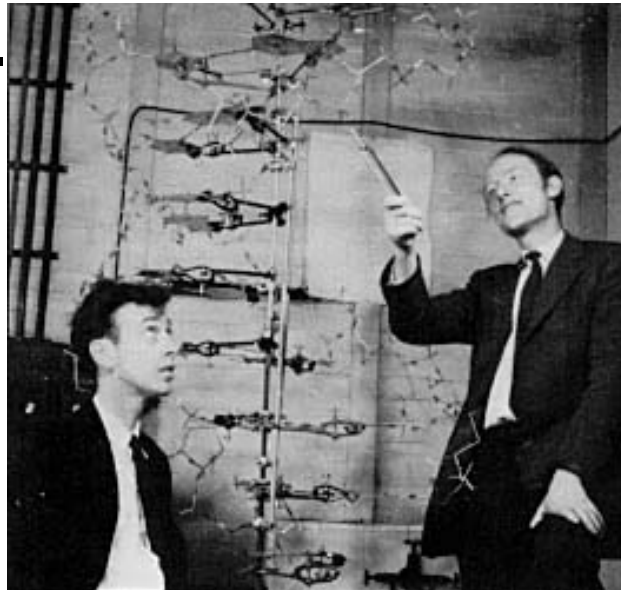
B. One part of helix is repeated.



C. The Watson and Crick Model

1 Using info. from Chargaff and Franklin, Watson & Crick built a DNA double helix model.

2 Model used complementary base pairing.





14.3 Replication of DNA

A . Copy DNA molecule

- 1 Unwinding by helicase.
- 2 Complementary Base Pairing catalyzed by DNA polymerase.
- 3 Joining.
- 4 DNA replication must be done before a cell divides.

B. Replication is Semiconservative

- 1 One parental strand and one new strand.
- 2 Meselson & Stahl confirmation of DNA replication
 - A. Results = 1/2 DNA light, 1/2 hybrid
- 3 Exact expected results with semiconservative replication.

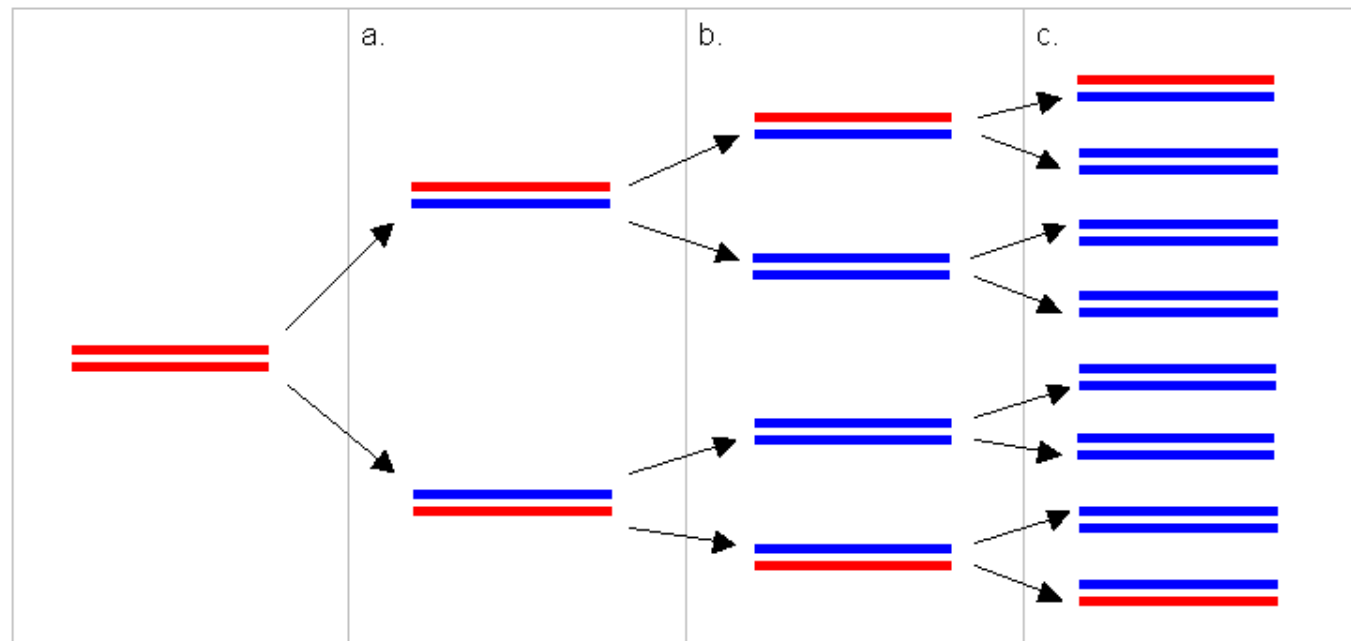
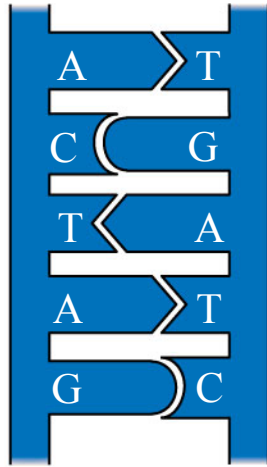
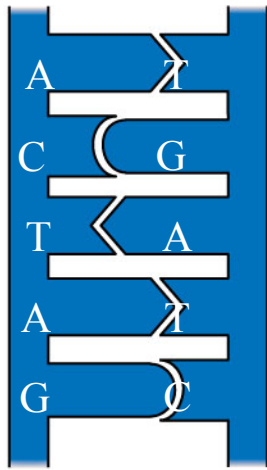


Figure 16.9-1

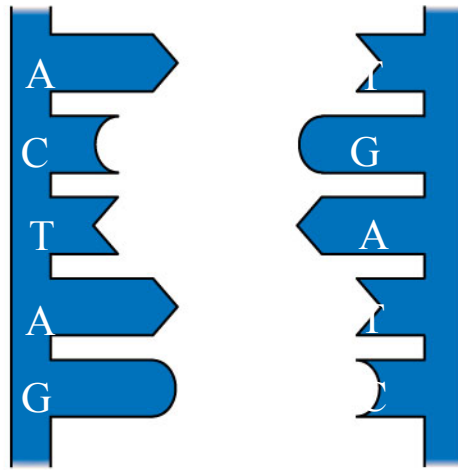


(a) Parent molecule

Figure 16.9-2

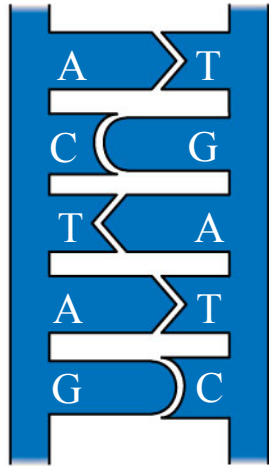


(a) Parent molecule

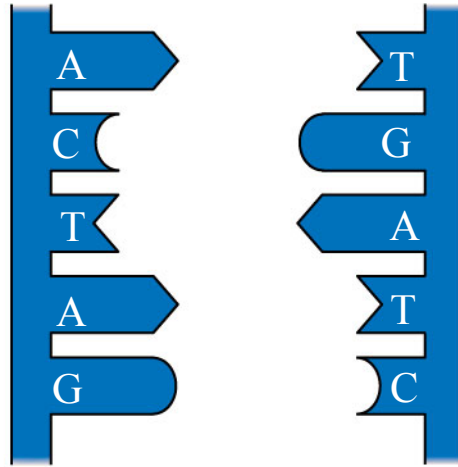


(b) Separation of strands

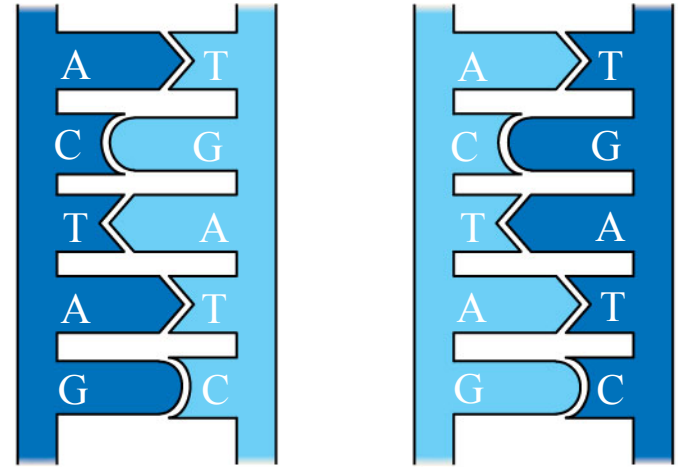
Figure 16.9-3



(a) Parent molecule



(b) Separation of strands



(c) "Daughter" DNA molecules, each consisting of one parental strand and one new strand



C. Prokaryote Vs. Eukaryote

1 Prokaryotic Replication

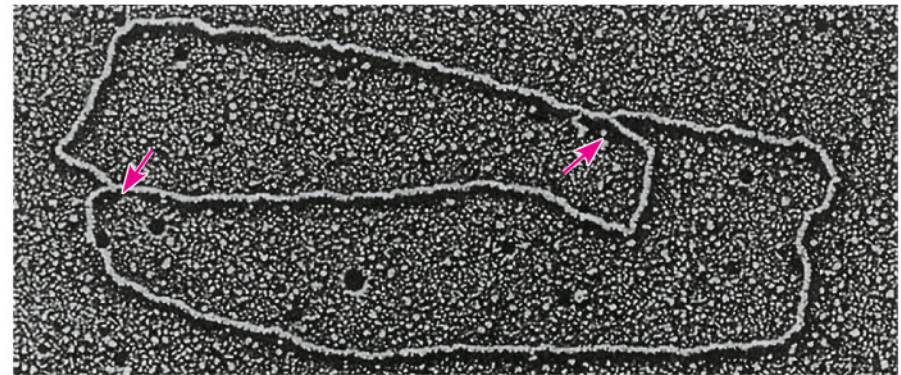
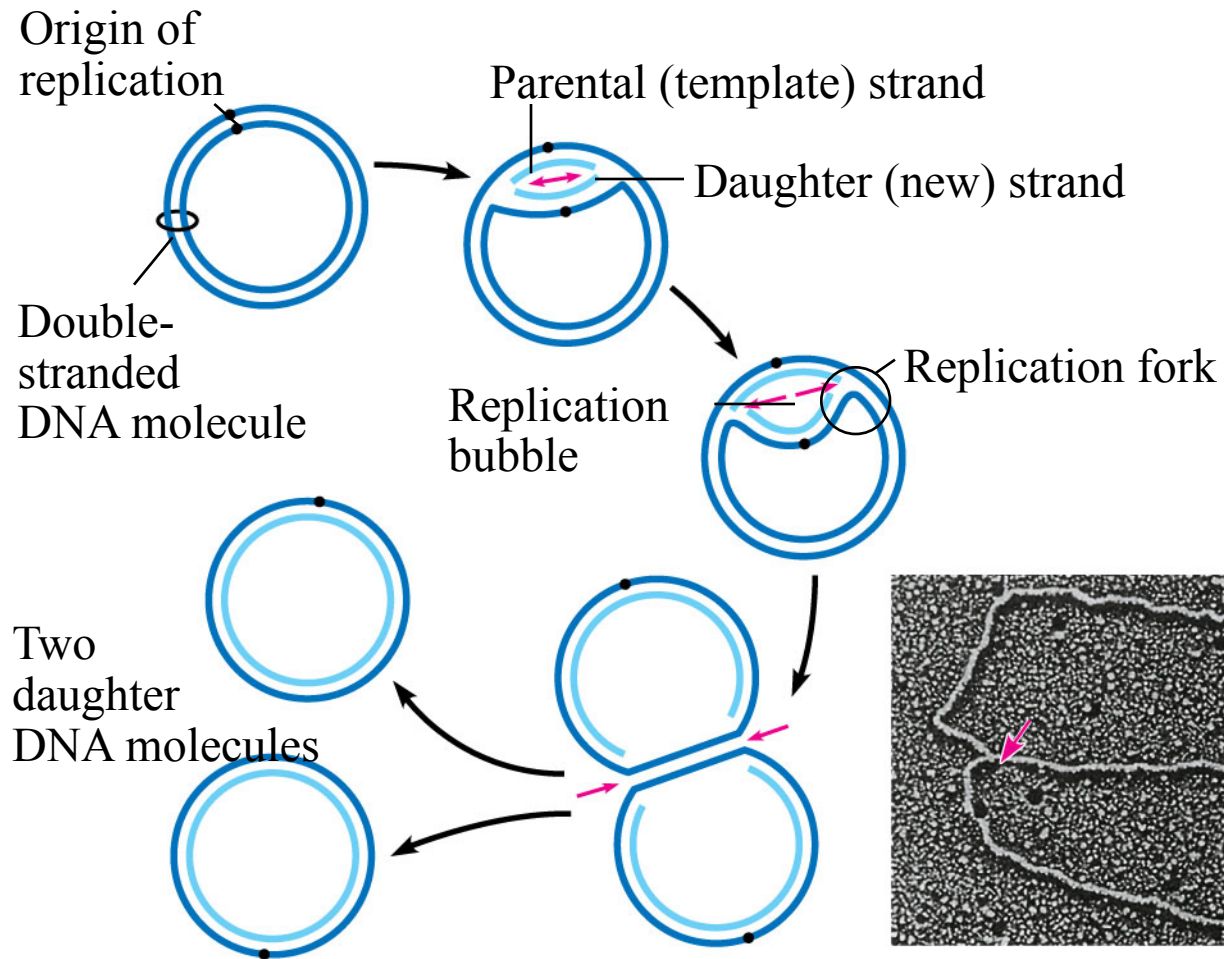
A. Bacteria single loop of DNA.

B. Replication proceeds from 5' to 3'

C. DNA replicated in 40 minutes.

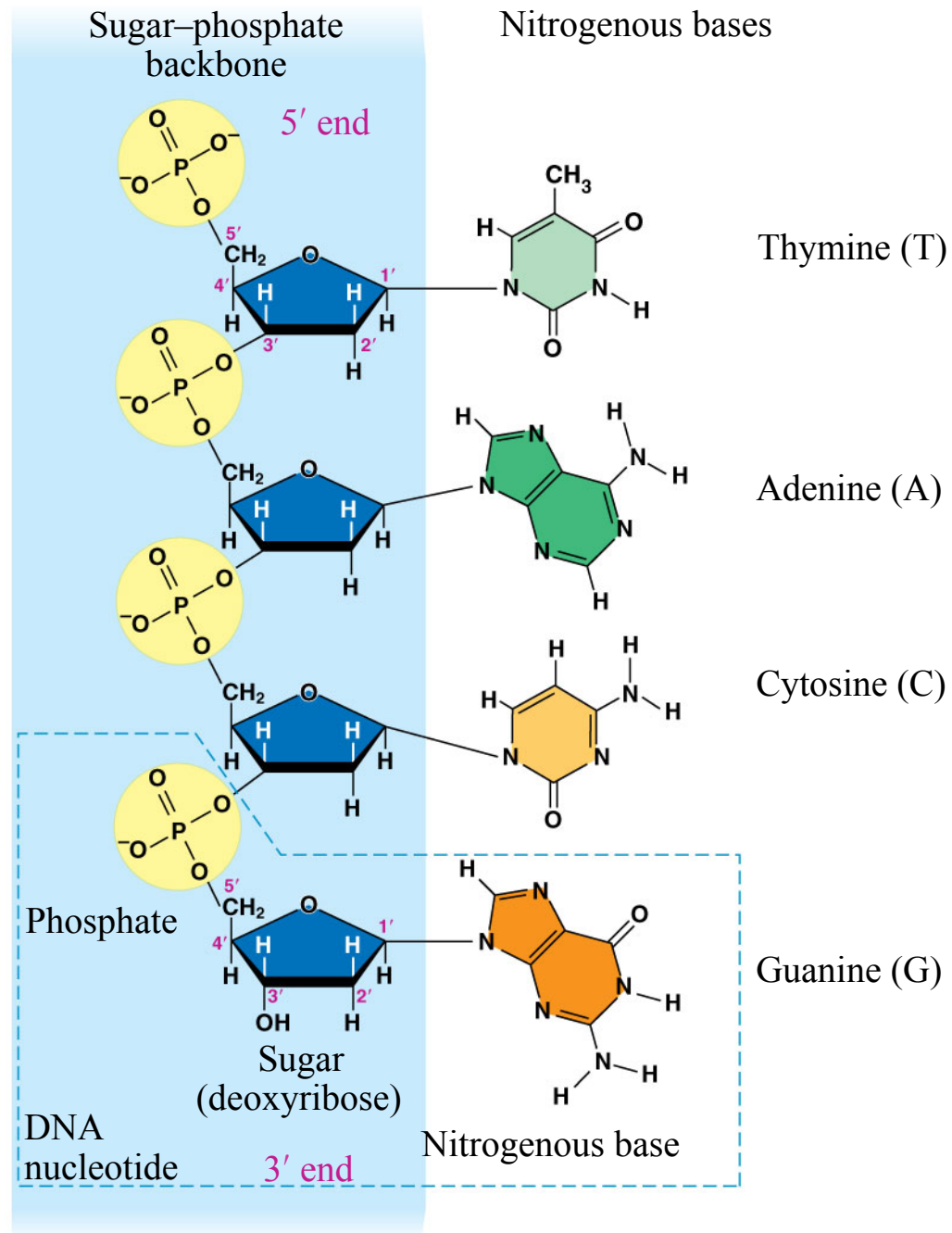
Figure 16.12a

(a) Origin of replication in an *E. coli* cell



0.5 μm

Figure 16.5



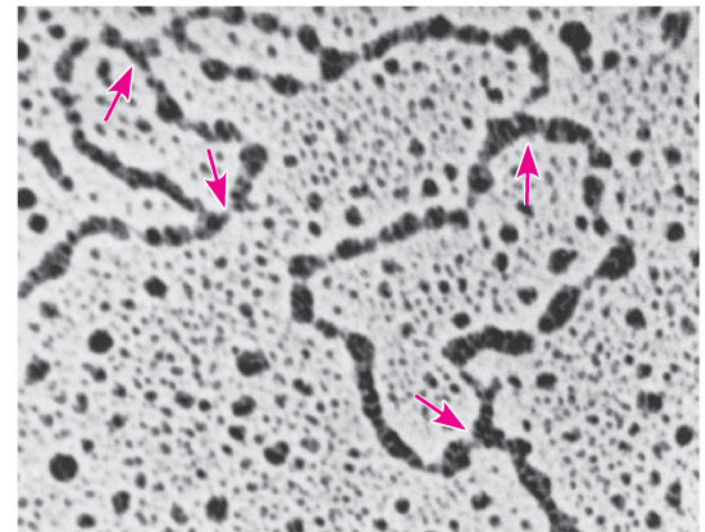
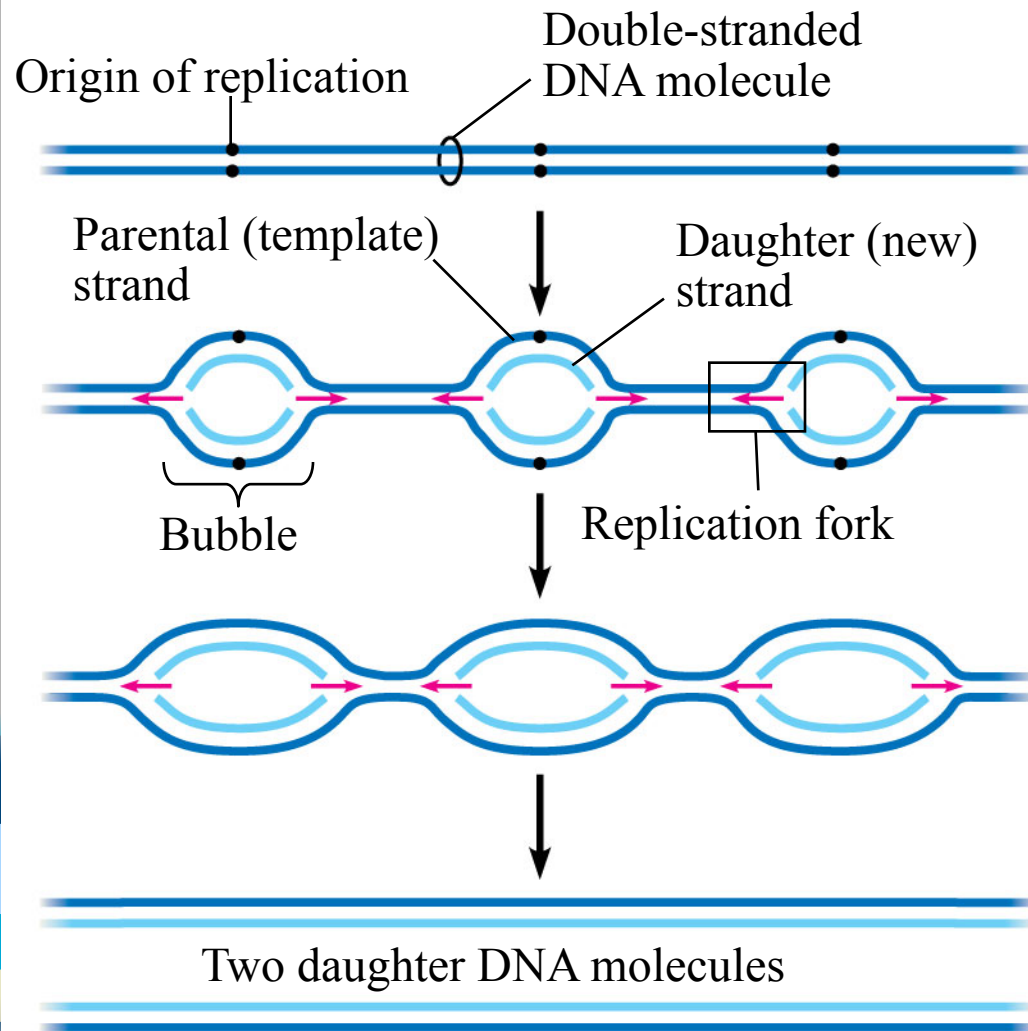


2. Eukaryotic Replication

- A . Many points of origin.
- B . Replication Forks.
- C . DNA replicated in several hours.

Figure 16.12b

(b) Origins of replication in a eukaryotic cell





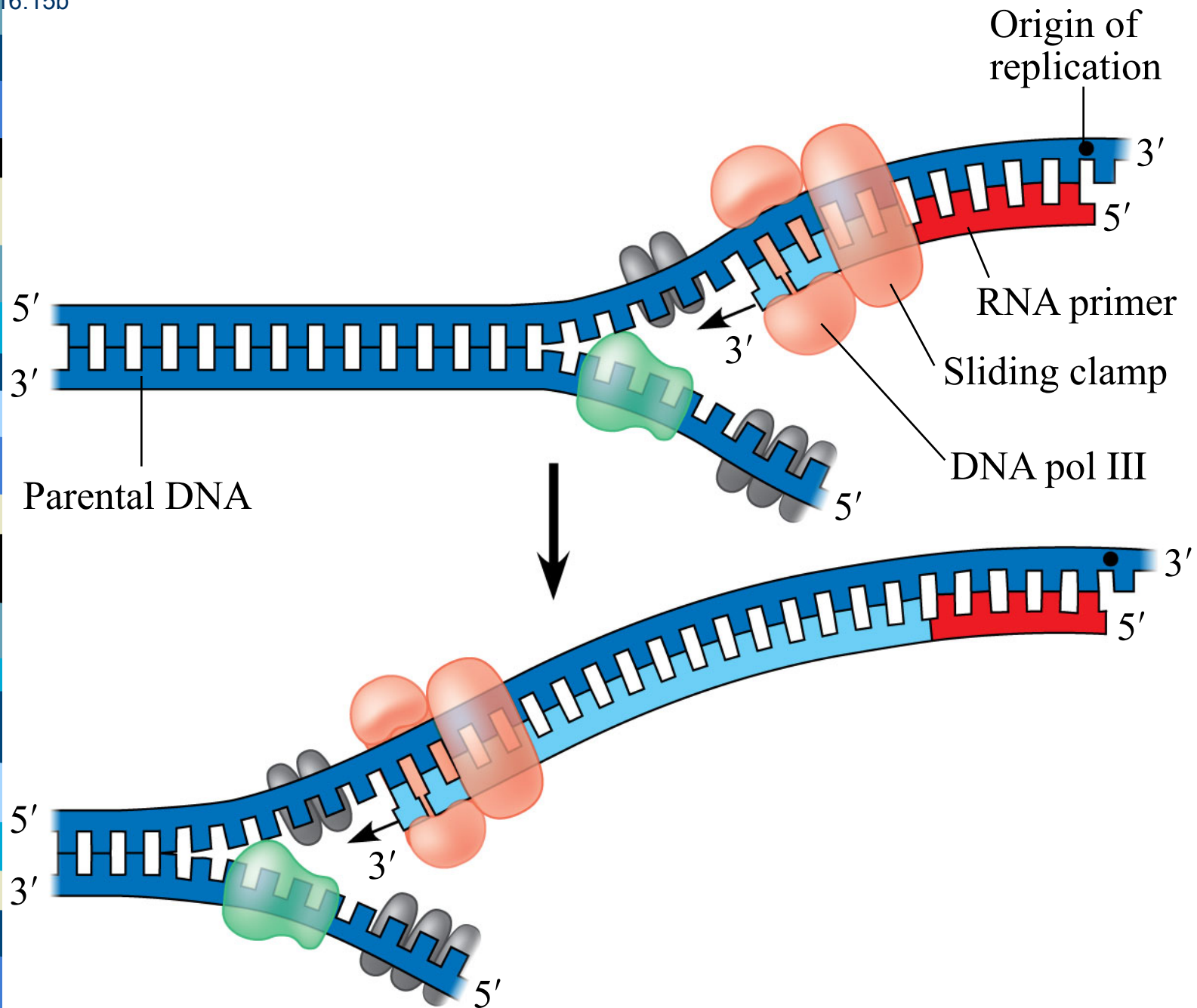
Getting Started

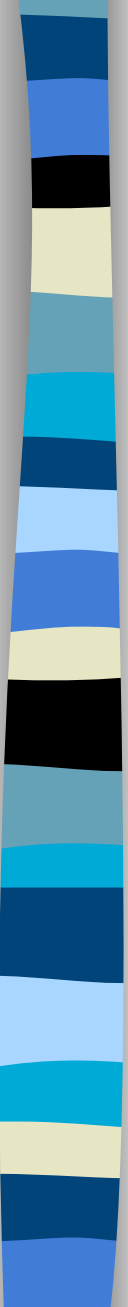
- Replication begins at particular sites called **origins of replication**, where the two DNA strands are separated, opening up a replication “bubble”
- A eukaryotic chromosome may have hundreds or even thousands of origins of replication
- Replication proceeds in both directions from each origin, until the entire molecule is copied

PLAY

Animation: Origins of Replication

Figure 16.15b



- 
- At the end of each replication bubble is a **replication fork**, a Y-shaped region where new DNA strands are elongating
 - **Helicases** are enzymes that untwist the double helix at the replication forks
 - **Single-strand binding proteins** bind to and stabilize single-stranded DNA
 - **Topoisomerase** corrects “overwinding” ahead of replication forks by breaking, swiveling, and rejoining DNA strands



Leading strand and lagging strand animation

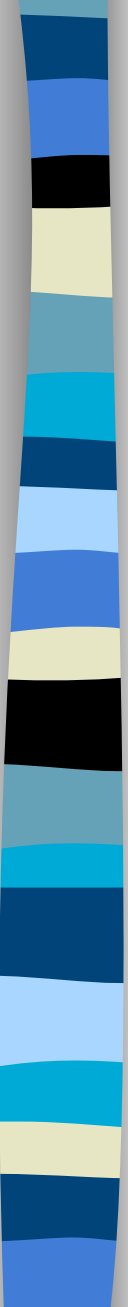
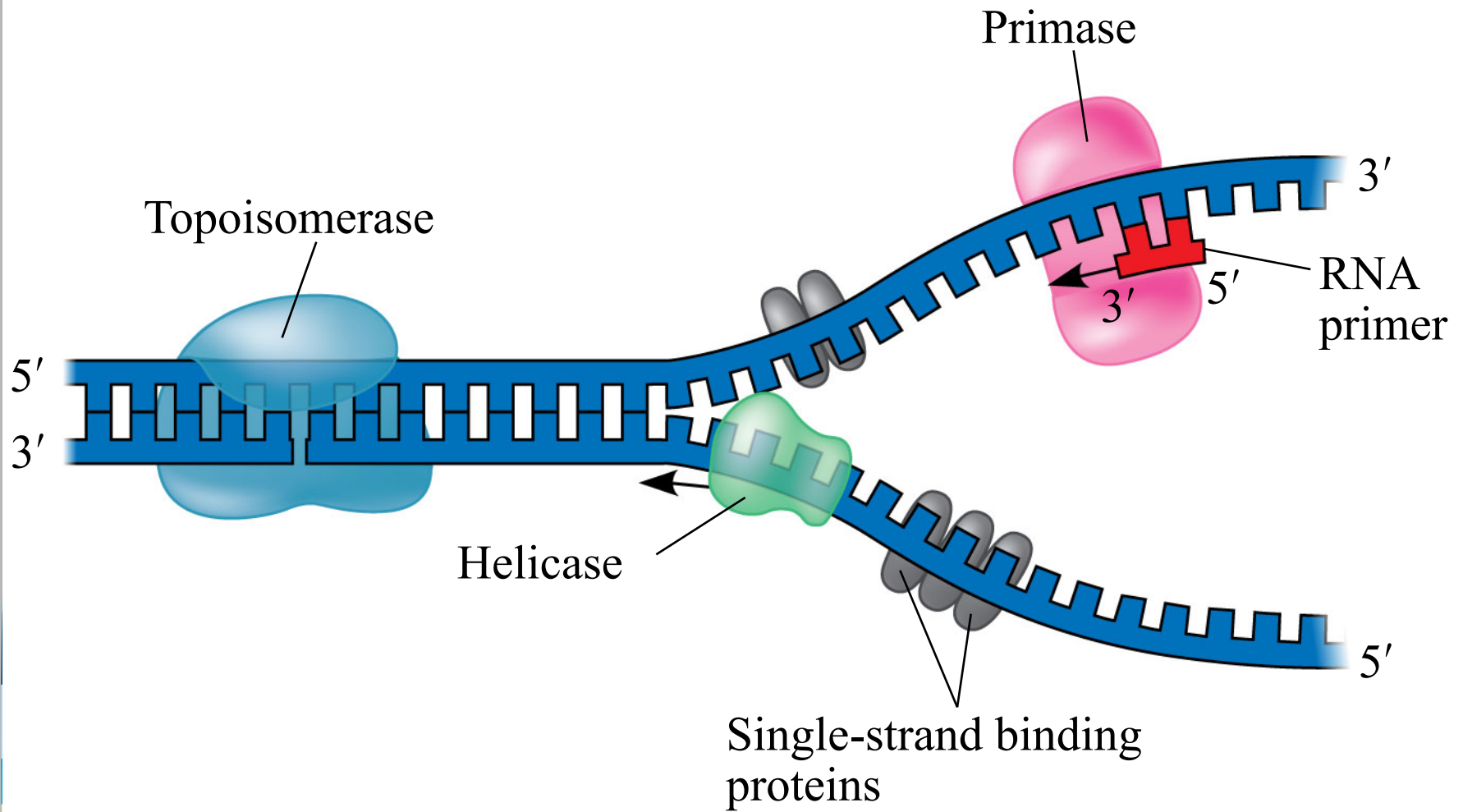
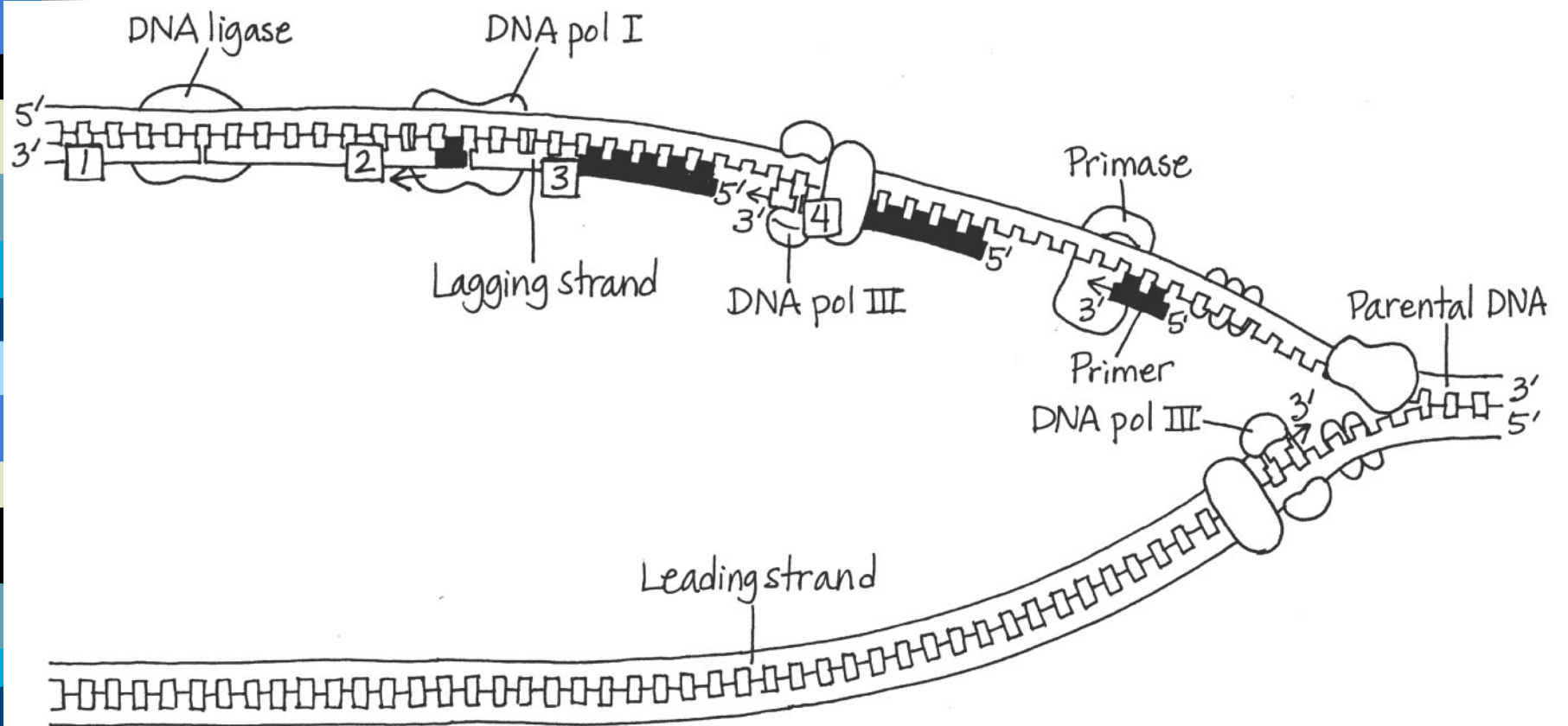
- 
- DNA polymerases cannot initiate synthesis of a polynucleotide; they can only add nucleotides to the 3' end
 - The initial nucleotide strand is a short RNA **primer**
 - An enzyme called **primase** can start an RNA chain from scratch and adds RNA nucleotides one at a time using the parental DNA as a template
 - The primer is short (5–10 nucleotides long), and the 3' end serves as the starting point for the new DNA strand

Figure 16.13







D. Replication Errors

- 1 Mutations are permanent changes in base sequences.
- 2 Base changes causes mutations.
- 3 Mismatched nucleotides (1 in 100,000 base pairs) cause pause in replication.
- 4 DNA repair enzymes.

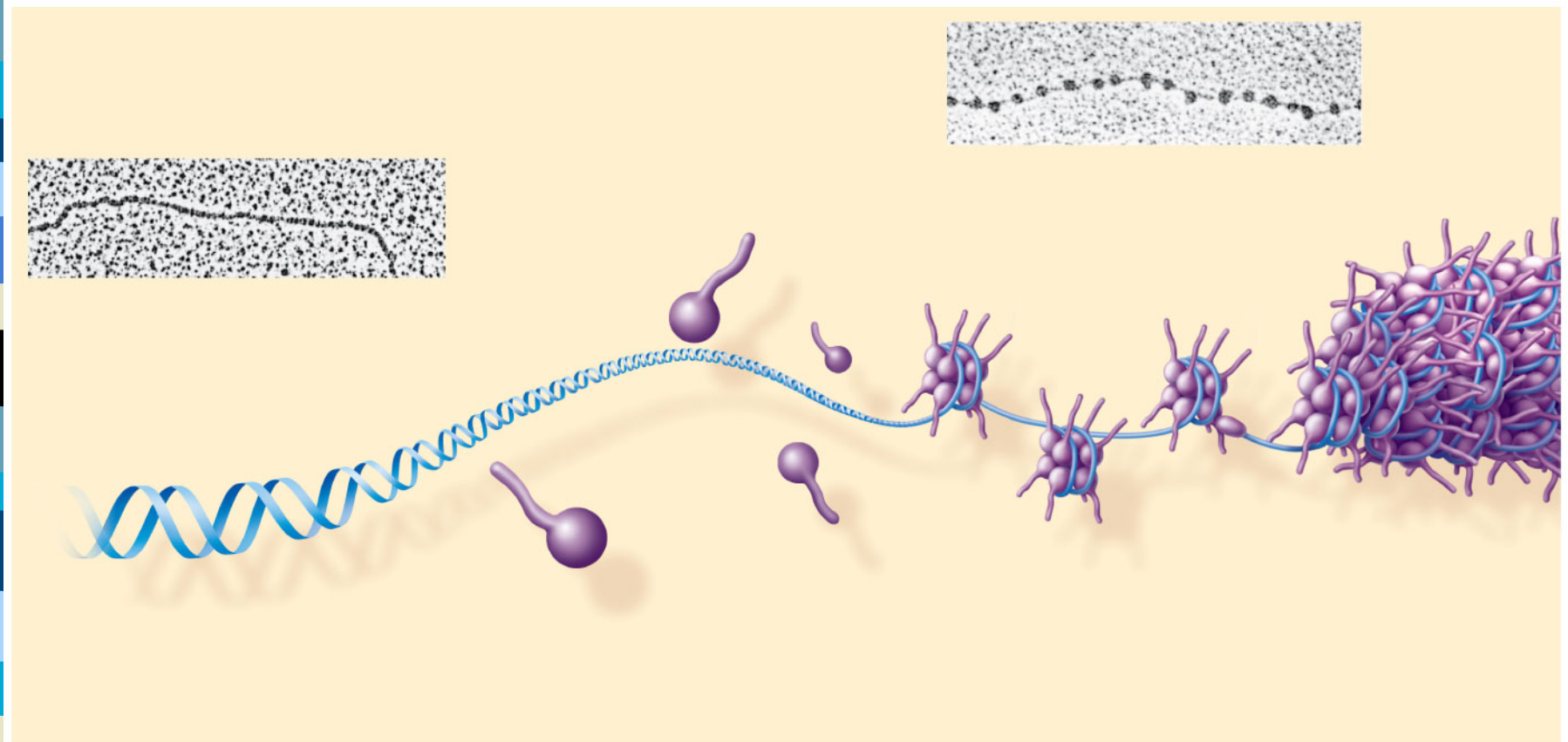




Replicating the ends of chromosomes

- Limitations of DNA polymerase create problems for the linear DNA of eukaryotic chromosomes
- The usual replication machinery provides no way to complete the 5' ends
- Eukaryotic chromosomal DNA molecules have special nucleotide sequences at their ends called **telomeres**

The structure of a Eukaryotic chromosome



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Chromatin

- Most chromatin is loosely packed in the nucleus during interphase and condenses prior to mitosis
- Loosely packed chromatin is called **euchromatin**
- During interphase a few regions of chromatin (centromeres and telomeres) are highly condensed into **heterochromatin**
- Dense packing of the heterochromatin makes it difficult for the cell to express genetic information coded in these regions