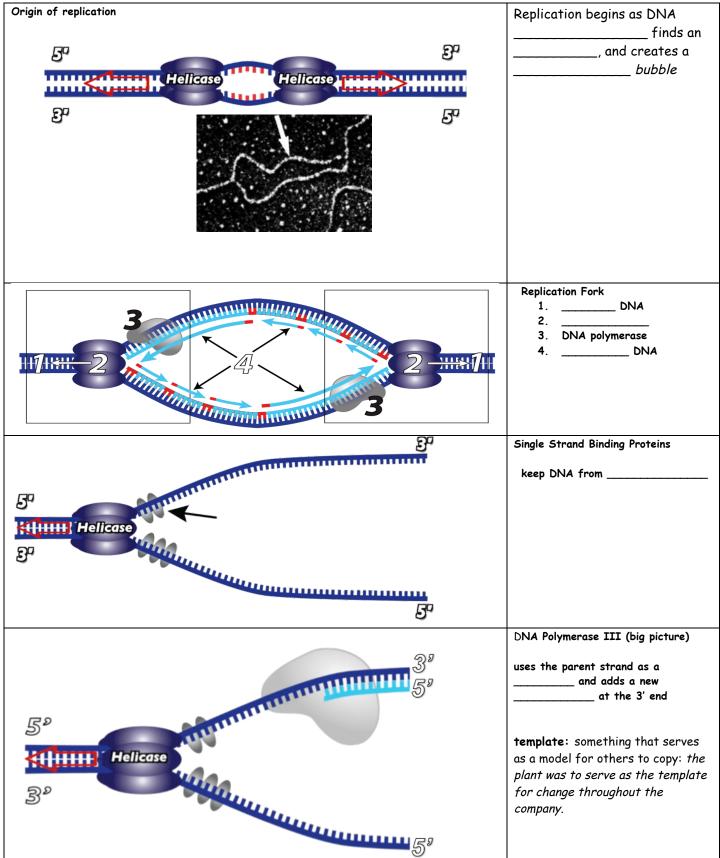
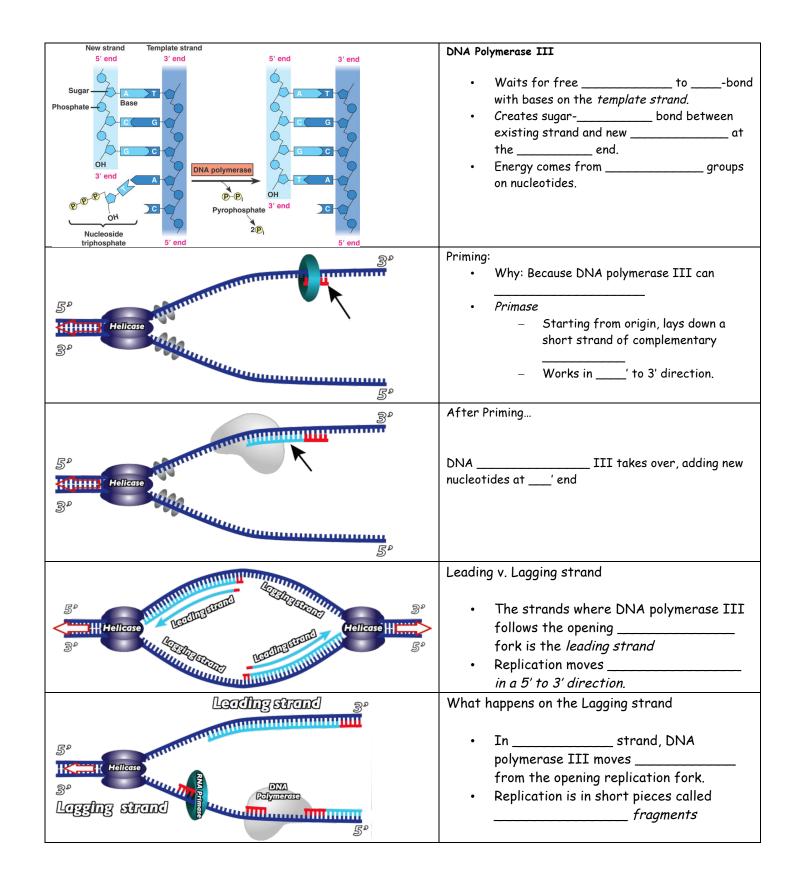
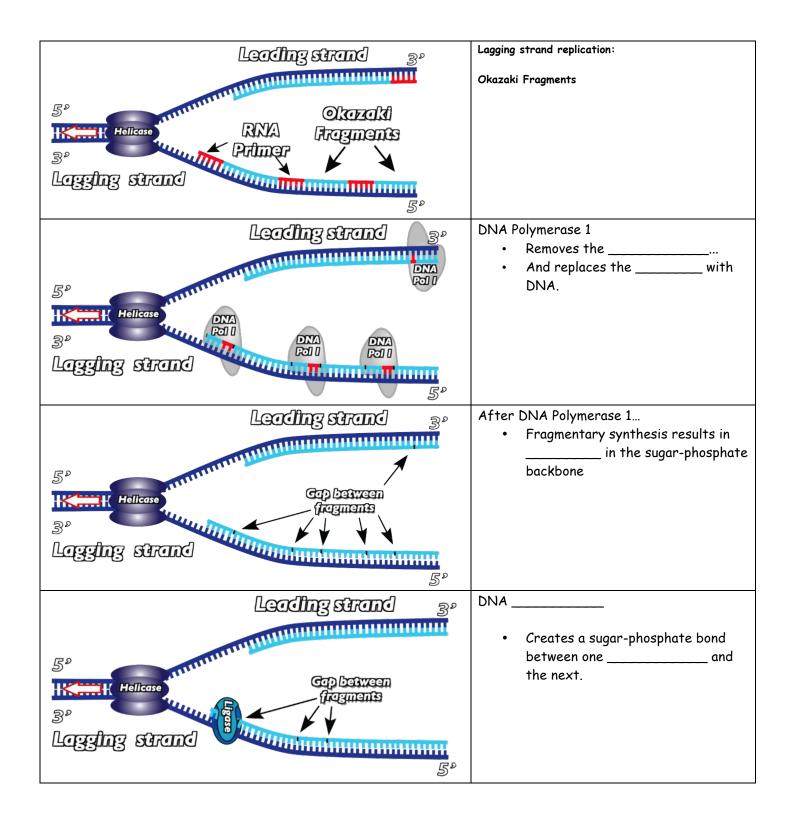
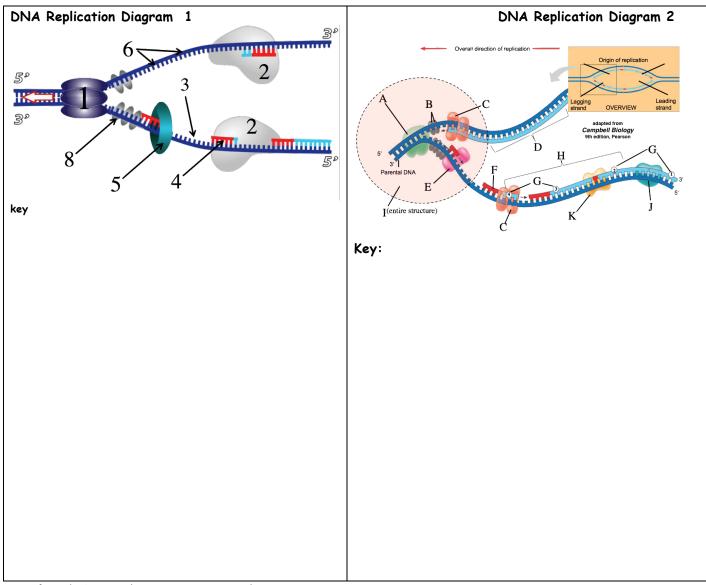


# DNA REPLICATION: THE DETAILS









Notes from the DNA Replication Animation at Wiley.com

# **DNA Replication Rap**

DNA's structure, with its bases complementary , Makes replication easy, but not quite elementary Since A only bonds with T and C with G, The double helix seems to copy naturally,

or as Crick and Watson said: (PAUSE BEAT)

## CHORUS

"It has not escaped our notice that that the specific pairing we have postulated immediately suggests A possible copying mechanism for the genetic material."

You first unzip the DNA in one or more places, Breaking hydrogen bonds to separate the bases. Each resulting single strand serves as a template, Allowing enzymes to replicate

New strands with complementary bases that match And through hydrogen bonds these bases attach Each nucleotide now bonds to the next Through a sugar-phosphate bond they connect

Meselsohn and Stahl proved in '58 That this is how the double helix replicates One strand new, the parent strand preserved, In other words the whole thing is semi-conserved,

#### CHORUS

Now let's see how replication really goes, With blind, mindless enzymes controlling the show. Made more complex by something you can see Each DNA strand has directionality

5 prime to 3 is how the enzymes go, (Just refer to the carbons in deoxyribose) So when a new strand is synthesized Nucleotides get added on the 3 prime side

The process begins with helicase, Which opens up the helix at a special place Breaking hydrogen bonds at the **origin**, A sequence telling helicase where to begin

## DNA REPLICATION: THE WHOLE SHEBANG

A replication fork is now composed, Where both parent strands have their bases exposed And to keep the double helix from rewinding, Single strand proteins come in and start binding.

Note two forks always form when DNA doubles, The whole thing's called a replication bubble Now it's primase's turn, the next enzyme To come to the origin at this time

Primase lays down a primer of RNA, Complementary to the template DNA. Setting the stage for the star of our show DNA polymerase, now set to go.

DNA polymerase's job is to add Deoxyribonucleotides to a growing strand. But polymerase needs a growing strand in place, Which is why initiation is the job of primase.

What happens now is simple, it's a replication race, As polymerase follows helicase, As the fork opens up, replication proceeds, With nucleotides added at incredible speed.

## CHORUS

What we've said applies to the leading strand Where replication's smooth, continuous and grand, But on the second strand, fork opens 3 to 5: a direction where polymerase can't polymerize

So instead of following helicase, Polymerase moves *away* from the forking place So replication's lagging, and fragmentary As discovered in '66 by Okazaki

So the lagging DNA's filled with Okazaki fragments, And RNA primers, and to clean up this mess, Polymerase 1 removes the primer, Puts deoxyribonucleotides in what could be finer?

And now the fragments need to be connected, So the new DNA can be perfected, Ligase carries out this function with pride, Sealing sugar-phosphate bonds between nucleotides CHORUS