

Activity 1

Outline a basic method to make human insulin, using a genetically modified plasmid in E.coli.

Step	What happens?
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	

This is just one simple example. There are an increasing number of genetically modified plants and animals currently used in agriculture. There is an urgent need for new crops to feed a rapidly increasing human population. Some worry about risks to health and the environment.

Further examples of genetically modified crops or animals.

- salt tolerance in tomato plants,
- synthesis of beta-carotene (vitamin A precursor) in rice,
- herbicide resistance in crop plants and
- factor IX (human blood clotting) in sheep milk.

Activity 2

Research the potential benefits and possible harmful effects of one example of genetic modification.

Record your findings in the table on the next page.

My chosen example of Genetic Modification _____

Factor	Potential Benefits	Possible Harmful outcomes

1. Are the risks from your example greater or smaller than the benefits

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2. Do protesters who destroy trials of GM crops make the world safer?

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Justify your answer (give specific details)

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(2)