

# Richard III

## Discovery

### What does the past pass down to the future?

Part of the amazing team behind the discovery and identification of Richard III's remains were the scientists in the labs who ran tests on the remains to confirm that it was, in fact, Richard III that had been found in the carpark. Radiocarbon dating provided the date of death, osteoarchaeologists look at the bones and the damage to the skeleton and, finally, DNA testing was carried out.

DNA is your body's code containing all the information about you, whether you have red hair like your Dad or long fingers like your Mum, even whether you can roll your tongue or not. DNA makes you, you! You got your DNA from your parents, it is the information that is passed on to the next generation. Nobody else in the world will have DNA the same as you, unless you have an identical twin.

2 people had been identified as descendants of Richard III's sister Anne and their DNA (passed to them from their mother and to her from her mother, all the way back to Anne and Richard from their mother) matched the DNA found in the skeleton. Skeleton 1, found in the carpark in Leicester was that of Richard III.

### Your Task

Research your family tree - not just names and dates, but physical things as well. Do you have the same colour hair as your great grandma? Can Dad roll his tongue like you? Is your nose the same shape as Grandad's?

