

S100: Science: a foundation course
S100/17: Genetic code

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Clip transcript: Introduction to Unit 17 of S100.

Michael Pentz:

This is what Unit 17 is all about. The nucleus of the cell, the stuff inside it, what it is, what it does, how it's organised. Our programme is going to be in two parts and in the first part Stephen Hurry will be going through the division, the role of the nucleus in cell division. He'll be showing you a greatly speeded up film for that. And in the second part, we'll be probing a little more deeply into the function of this stuff.

Stephen Hurry:

For your home experiment you'll be working with a still photograph of a number of cells in division. The cells were taken from the root of a Crocus plant. We're going to look at a film of dividing cells, but this time, taken from this plant here, the African Blood Lily. Both the Crocus and the Blood Lily has been chosen because the chromosomes are large and easy to see. And although the plants themselves are different, the process of division is in fact very similar and this similarity is very important.