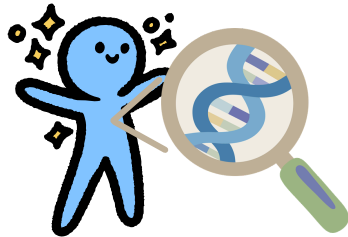


WHAT IS EPIGENETICS



A caregiver's guide this study and DNA collection

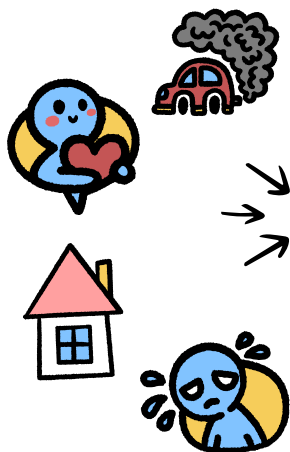
1 DNA AND GENES



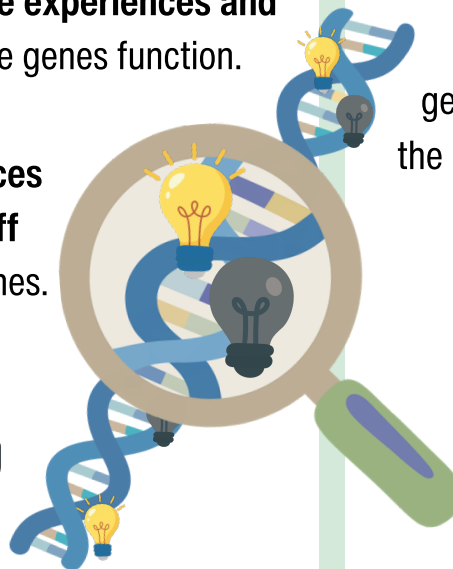
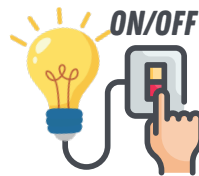
- **DNA** is found in all cells of the body.
- **Genes** are the building blocks of DNA that are like instructions and make each person unique!

2 EPIGENETICS

- Epigenetics is the study of how **life experiences and the environment** affect how these genes function.



These **experiences** act like **on/off** switches for genes.



3 EPIGENETIC AGE

These small changes in the genes (💡 / 🔦) can show how the body is aging on the inside..

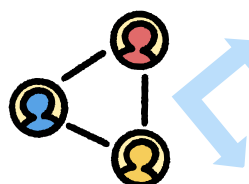
*This is what we call **epigenetic age**.*

We think **repeated illness** and **stress** may make the **body age faster**.

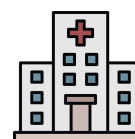
4 ABOUT THIS STUDY?

WHAT: We are seeing if **epigenetic age** can be used as a marker to **predict** these health changes and differences.

WHO: Children with Severe Neurological Impairment with Static Encephalopathy (**SNI-SE**)



VS



WHY:

Some children with SNI-SE remain **relatively stable**,

while others face **frequent health complications**.