

# Match... eliminate... identify.

Humans and algae share many genes for basic functions and essential structures, including some genes that go into cilia and basal bodies.

**CTCAGTCGGCTCAAGCCCCTAAGAGAATGCC**

Basal body

Cilia perform important functions in both multicellular organisms and single-celled organisms.

Scientists used a computerized comparison to identify human-algal gene matches, then eliminated all matches found in a land plant that doesn't have cilia or basal bodies.

**Algae**

C  
TCAG  
TCGGCTC  
AAGCCCCT  
GAAGAAGAA  
TGGCCTCAGA  
TGGTGCTCTGA  
ATGGACGACAA

**Humans**

**Plants**