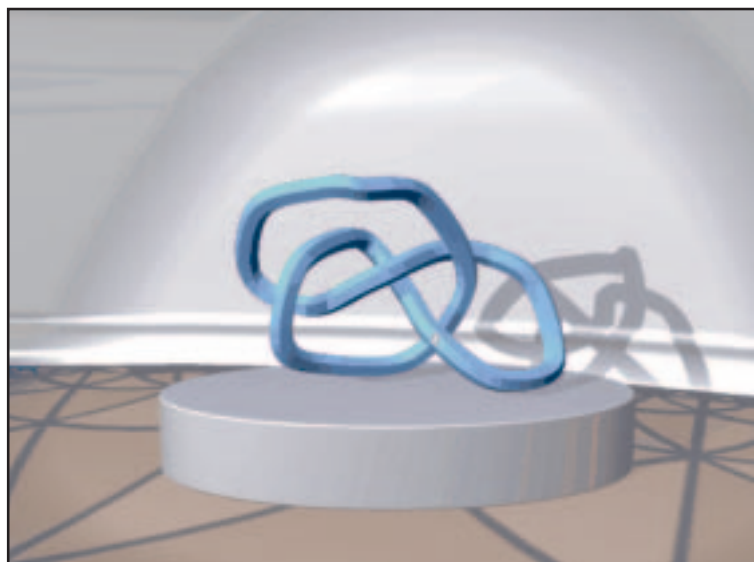
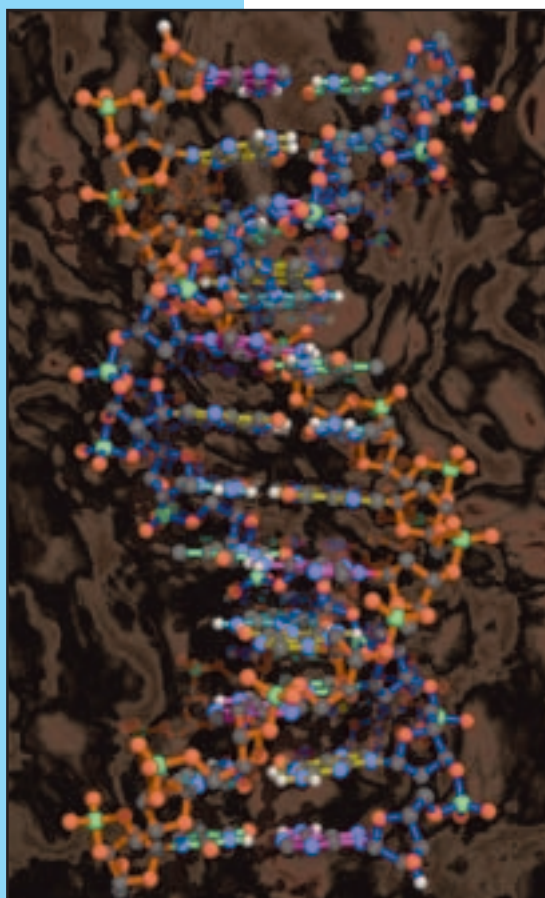




# Deciphering DNA

Anyone who has used a garden hose knows that knots appear in strange places. Scientists have found that a branch of mathematics called knot theory appears in many familiar places, including in our DNA. Mathematics plays a key role in understanding how DNA functions and replicates itself.



Left: Photograph courtesy of Paul Thiessen.

Right: Photograph courtesy of the University of Minnesota.