

Laboratory Geneticist Interview Questions

1. Please share with me an example of how you helped coach or mentor someone. What improvements did you see in the person's knowledge or skills?

2. What kind of experience do you have planning or conducting basic genomic and biological research related to areas such as regulation of gene expression, protein interactions, metabolic networks, and nucleic acid or protein complexes?

3. How do you stay up to date with scientific literature to select and modify methods and procedures most appropriate for genetic research goals?

4. Share your approach to review, approve, or interpret genetic laboratory results.

5. Describe an experience in which you identified the educational needs of your students and successfully developed a way to teach/train them.

6. Share an experience you had in dealing with a difficult person and how you handled the situation.

7. Tell me how you organize, plan, and prioritize your work.

8. What are some long-range objectives that you developed in your last job? What did you do to achieve them?

9. Give me an example of when you thought outside of the box. How did it help your employer?

10. Would you consider analyzing data or information a strength? How so?

11. Share an effective approach to working with a large amount of information/data. How has your approach affected your company?

12. Tell me about the last time you monitored or reviewed information and detected a problem. How did you respond?

13. Share a time when you successfully used scientific rules or methods to solve a problem at work.

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14. How would you rate your writing skills? (Ask for an example that demonstrates great writing skills.)
15. Provide an example of a time when you were able to demonstrate excellent listening skills. What was the situation and outcome?
16. Share an experience in which your attention to detail and thoroughness had an impact on your last company.
17. Provide a time when you were able to identify a complex problem, evaluate the options, and implement a solution. How did the solution benefit your employer?
18. Please share an experience in which you successfully taught a difficult principle or concept. How were you able to be successful?
19. What have you found to be the best way to monitor the performance of your work and/or the work of others? Share a time when you had to take corrective action.
20. Provide an example of when you were persistent in the face of obstacles.
21. Share an example of when you went above and beyond the "call of duty". (Look for answers that show the candidate is dependable.)
22. Describe an experience when you prepared results of experimental findings for presentation at professional conferences or in scientific journals.
23. Walk me through how you would extract deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) or perform diagnostic tests involving processes such as gel electrophoresis, Southern blot analysis, and polymerase chain reaction analysis.
24. What have you found to be the best way to evaluate genetic data by performing appropriate mathematical or statistical calculations and analyses?
25. How often do you attend clinical and research conferences and read scientific literature to keep abreast of technological advances and current genetic research findings?

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26. Share a time when you willingly took on additional responsibilities or challenges. How did you successfully meet all of the demands of these responsibilities? (Make sure the candidate is a self-starter and can demonstrate some initiative.)

27. What is the most challenging part of supervising or directing the work of other geneticists, biologists, technicians, or biometricians working on genetics research projects?

28. Provide an experience that demonstrates your ability to manage time effectively. What were the challenges and results?

29. Share an experience in which you used new training skills, ideas, or a method to adapt to a new situation or improve an ongoing one. (Look for the candidate's ability to learn.)

30. Provide an example of a time when you successfully organized a diverse group of people to accomplish a task.