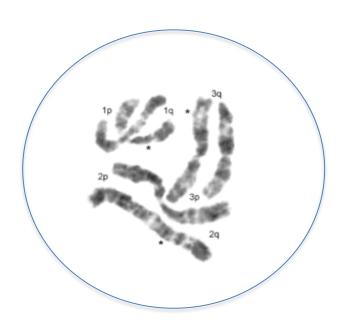
Topic	Mitosis and the cell cycle	Level	GCSE (or any course for students aged 11-16)
Outcomes	 To understand the terms diploid and haploid To describe the key stages in the cell cycle: stage 1 DNA replication, stage 2 mitosis, stage 3 cell division (cytokinesis) 		
Information for teachers	Use this simple activity after you have given students the chance to learn the ideas behind mitosis. The questions are diagnostic and explore whether students really understand the key ideas behind the cell cycle and mitosis. Students could work in pairs or individually for this task. Further reading Misconceptions of cell division held by student teachers in biology: a drawing analysis.		

www.thescienceteacher.co.uk | resources for science teachers who like to think

Aedes aegypti (Yellow Fever Mosquito)



This is a diagram representing the chromosomes inside an adult mosquito cell.



- 1. How many chromosomes are present in this cell?
- 2. What are chromosomes made from?
- 3. What is the diploid number of this cell?
- 4. How many chromosomes would be present in an egg cell from a mosquito?
- 5. What is the haploid number of this mosquito?
- 6. What is missing from the picture that should be included?
- 7. Before mitosis takes place, the DNA is replicated. Explain why the daughter cells do not have 12 chromosomes
- 8. Why do organisms that reproduce by sexual reproduction have even numbers of chromosomes?

- 1. How many chromosomes are present in this cell? 6
- 2. What are chromosomes made from? DNA
- 3. What is the diploid number of this cell? 6
- 4. How many chromosomes would be present in an egg cell from a mosquito? 3
- 5. What is the haploid number of this mosquito? 3
- 6. What is missing from the picture that should be included? Organelles
- 7. Before mitosis takes place, the DNA is replicated. Explain why the daughter cells do not have 12 chromosomes. The cell divides into two to form two identical daughter cells, each containing 6 chromosomes.
- 8. Why do organisms that reproduce by sexual reproduction have even numbers of chromosomes? The number is even because one set (pair) of chromosomes is inherited from each of two parents. One chromosome from each pair comes from the sperm (father) and one comes from the egg (mother). These homologous chromosomes contain the same genes e.g. wing length but may have different forms e.g. short or long