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Left-handed (left) and right-handed (right) double helical DNA. The superimposed heavy black line goes from phosphate to phosphate and traces the polynucleotide backbone. In right-handed DNA the backbone is a continuous right-handed helix; in left-handed DNA it follows a zigzag course. In these computer-generated diagrams, the phosphorous is yellow, nitrogen blue, oxygen red, and hydrogen uncolored. See page 171. [Computer graphics program developed by Gary J. Quigley, Department of Biology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology]
Editor's Summary

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