

The Lab Heroes

De Noelia Corso



Maya and Leo are students in a big lab.
They see a problem in the farm fields.
There is a grey color on the plants.
They need to investigate this sudden infection.



Maya goes to her workbench. She wears gloves and a lab coat. She takes a piece of a sick leaf. She wants to extract a sample. She looks for a small microorganism inside the leaf.



Leo uses a computer and informatics. He wants to analyze the genome of the pathogen. He looks at many letters and numbers on the screen. He wants to find the cause of the sickness.



Leo calls Maya to his desk. They look at a 3D model on the screen. They find a secret. A bad enzyme is switching the plant's metabolism. The plant is changing its internal work.



Leo explains the problem to the team. Healthy plants are aerobic. They use oxygen for energy. But these sick plants are now anaerobic. They cannot use oxygen. They are slowly dying.



Maya looks at a single cell under her tools. The plant is losing its balance, or homeostasis. It cannot stay healthy. The transgenic wheat is very weak because of the sickness.



They look at the DNA / RNA of the plants. They learn about inheritance. The plants transmit the sickness to other plants through their pollen. It moves very fast through the air.



Maya and Leo want to help the farmers. They must modify the genes of the plant. They work hard to fix the genetic code. They want to make the plants strong again.



They put the liquid in the water for the plants. The grey color goes away. The plants are green and healthy again. Their teamwork and biotechnology saved the day.