VGEC: Student Notes Go Bananas! 1 Weigh out about 10 g of banana. 2 Mash it with a mortar and pestle. 3 Put the banana mash into a plastic tube. 4 Add 12 ml of salt solution using a measuring cylinder. 5 Add 1.5 ml of washing-up liquid using a plastic pipette. 6 Replace lid and shake well. 7 Put a filter in a funnel – and put the funnel into a beaker. 8 Filter the banana mash. 9 Suck up filtered liquid using a plastic pipette (about 5 ml). 10 Put this liquid into a clean plastic tube. 11 CAREFULLY dribble an EQUAL volume of cold ethanol down the side to form a layer on top of the banana fluid. 12 Replace the lid and GENTLY swirl the tube a few times. 13 Look at where the two layers meet … Questions Describe the DNA you extracted. What did it look like? Describe the role of the main steps in the process of DNA extraction: crushing, salt solution, washing-up liquid and ethanol. Could you use the same technique to extract DNA from other plant materials?