Record Nr. UNINA9910972698103321 Autore Keller Evelyn Fox <1936-> Titolo Making sense of life: explaining biological development with models, metaphors, and machines / / Evelyn Fox Keller Cambridge, MA,: Harvard University Press, 2002 Pubbl/distr/stampa 9780674039445 **ISBN** 0674039440 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (xii, 388 p.): ill Classificazione **WB 4000** Disciplina 570.1 Soggetti Developmental biology **Biology** Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Originally published: 2002. Includes bibliographical references (p. [351]-381) and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Preface Introduction PART ONE Models: Explaining Development without the Help of Genes 1. Synthetic Biology and the Origin of Living Form 2. Morphology as a Science of Mechanical Forces 3. Untimely Births of a Mathematical Biology PART TWO Metaphors: Genes and Developmental Narratives 4. Genes, Gene Action, and Genetic Programs 5. Taming the Cybernetic Metaphor 6. Positioning Positional Information PART THREE Machines: Understanding Development with Computers, Recombinant DNA, and Molecular Imaging 7. The Visual Culture of Molecular Embryology 8. New Roles for Mathematical and Computational Modeling 9. Synthetic Biology Redux-Computer Simulation and Artificial Life Conclusion: Understanding Development Notes References Index Sommario/riassunto What do biologists want? How will we know when we have 'made sense' of life? Explanations in the biological sciences are provisional and partial, judged by criteria as heterogenous as their subject matter. This

text accounts for this diversity.