

Gregor Mendel

The Father of Genetics!
He studied the pea plants to learn more about genes (No NOT the jeans you wear).

Punnett Square

This maps out genetic possibilities. Hint: it looks like four square!

double helix

DNA model of a DNA strand

characteristics

A feature that helps to identify, tell apart, or describe a trait.

trait

A special feature that describes more about something. For example: This is a synonym for the words: characteristic, property, or attribute.

hybrid

An organism produced by the crossing of parents that have different forms of the same trait. For example: A capital R and a lower case r would be Rr. Another example would be Bb.

spindle fibers

These are the strands that pull apart the chromosomes at the center when they are dividing inside the nucleus to form a second cell.

learned behavior

A type of behavior that has to be taught to you. For example: riding a bike, walking, eating, etc.

chromosomes

A thread-like structure inside a living cell, made mainly of DNA and proteins.

recessive gene

When one version of the gene is less powerful than the dominant trait.

dominant gene

When one version of gene is stronger than the other. This trait is the visible trait in the offspring.

inherited trait

Traits that are passed on from parents to their offspring. For example: eye color, hair color, shape of your nose, etc.

genetics

The study
of heredity.

heredity

This is the passing
on of traits from
parents to their
offspring.

homozygous

An organism with
two alleles for a trait
that are exactly the
same. For example:
TT or BB

heterozygous

An organism with
two different alleles
for a trait. For
example: Tt or Bb

crossbreeding

Producing offspring by mating individuals from two distinct breeds or varieties of the same species.

offspring

a child or children

instinct

An inherited behavior. For example: crying, breathing, etc.

adaptations

A characteristic that helps an organism survive in an environment.

DNA

A chemical substance that carries genetic information in the vast majority of living things.

Genes

A unit of inheritance for passing on one feature; characteristic or trait.

