

**SPECIAL ED**

# **GENETICS & HEREDITY**



**INCLUDES GOOGLE SLIDES**





*This unit was created with this guy in mind. He has autism and an intellectual disability. He is a non-reader, got his blue eyes from me, AND he is able to do this unit. He is my tester!!*

## Table of Contents

Pages	Activity
4-65	Genes: the Magic Code book
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This unit contains almost 200 pages of material, but don't worry I have detailed lesson plans to show you how to make this last 11 days or more.

Everything highlighted in yellow comes with a digital version of the activity.

It comes in 2 separate files. One in color and one in black and white.



# Genes and Heredity

## Lesson Plan

### Preparation

- Print out a vocabulary board for each student to use throughout unit
  - Laminate or place in page protector
- Book
  - Print out, laminate, and bind
  - OR, your students can listen to the pre-recorded version
- Vocabulary cards
  - Print out a set of cards onto cardstock and laminate
  - Make one set for each student and also one for the teacher to use in I Spy games

### Preassessment (do day 1 before starting lesson)

- Choose the form of the assessment that best fits the learning level of your students
- Give the assessment to assess what your students may already know
- I cannot emphasize enough how important this step is. If you want to see growth, this preassessment is so important!!

### Teaching Tips

- *Color Coding:* this is a really easy way to add more structure to a matching activity. Outline or color in an empty box or sorting label. Outline or color in the corresponding picture symbols the same colors. Becomes a color matching task.
  - a. For more info, read more here:  
<https://specialneedsforspecialkids.org/2015/09/05/using-color-coding-for-differentiation/>
  - b. I also have a blog post on differentiating one activity 3 ways:  
<https://specialneedsforspecialkids.org/2018/10/22/differentiating-1-activity-3-ways-easily-and-effectively/>
- *Make your own copies of the activities:* Every day I review the activity we did yesterday. For that reason:
  - a. I often complete the activity myself and often laminated it for easy review that I could use year after year.
  - b. My copies were also helpful as either a model for students who needed more support or as a way for more advanced students to self-check their work.

The lesson plans contain:

Overall tips for teaching students with significant needs



## Quick Look

Day	Activity	Day	Activity
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Book</li><li>• Vocab cards introduction</li><li>• Circle map</li></ul>	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Book</li><li>• Vocab cards cut and paste</li><li>• Word search</li></ul>
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Book</li><li>• Vocab cards activity</li><li>• Circle map</li></ul>	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Book</li><li>• Vocab cards cut and paste</li><li>• Sudoku puzzle</li></ul>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Book</li><li>• Vocab cards activity</li><li>• Labeling activity</li></ul>	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Book</li><li>• Vocab cards activity</li><li>• Close worksheet</li></ul>
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Book</li><li>• Vocab cards activity</li><li>• Boy or girl activity</li></ul>	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Book</li><li>• Vocab cards activity</li><li>• Close worksheet</li></ul>
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Book</li><li>• Vocab cards activity</li><li>• Inherited traits activities</li></ul>	11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Assessment</li><li>• Make editable DNA</li></ul>
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Book</li><li>• Vocab cards activity</li><li>• Inherited traits activities</li></ul>		

*The lesson plans contain:*

*A quick look at what you will do each day.*


## Day 2

Activity	Notes	Materials
Read or listen to a recording of the book (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read through the story, asking lots of questions</li><li>• Continue to make connections between book and vocabulary board</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Book</li><li>• Vocabulary board</li></ul>
Vocabulary cards I Spy Game (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I play this game, or variations of it the first few days<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Determine how many cards your students can handle in front of them.</li></ul></li><li>• Since this is the first time playing this game, I make it easy. Hold up a card, and have students find the matching one and hold it up</li><li>• Discuss relevant points on the card<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ You can also play this game in this manner having them find the symbol on their vocabulary board</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vocabulary cards (student set and teacher set)</li><li>• Vocabulary board</li></ul>
Circle map review (5 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Review the circle map completed yesterday</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Circle map completed yesterday</li></ul>
Circle Map (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Do the circle map about heredity</li><li>• Choose the best version (errorless or not) depending on the learning level of your students</li><li>• Students cut out symbols and place in circle map</li><li>• Make connections to the book as necessary</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Circle map</li><li>• Scissors</li><li>• Glue</li></ul>
Sharing (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Each student shares their finished worksheet with the group using the communication method of their choice</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Completed worksheet</li><li>• Communication devices</li></ul>

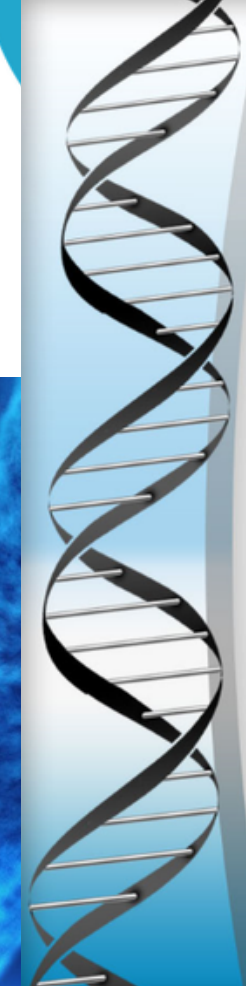
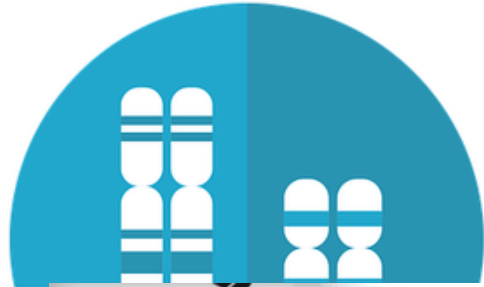
The lesson plans contain:

Detailed instructions on how that day's lesson should run.






**Genes** are made up of thin strands of material called **chromosomes**.



If you are a girl, then both of those chromosomes will be an X.



This unit contains a 62 page book. It has simple text and engaging photos. I encourage teachers to start **EVERY** lesson with this book.

It comes in a PowerPoint, voice recorded version and movie so you don't have to print it out.



**DNA** is a very special molecule and has a very special shape, called a **double helix**.



*There is an mp4 version of the book which you can play in google or other online platform.*

Play (k)

▶ ⏪ 🔊 3:44 / 11:37

Christa Joy, Special Needs for Sp... CC Kids ⚙️ 📺 🔍





This unit comes with a vocabulary board.

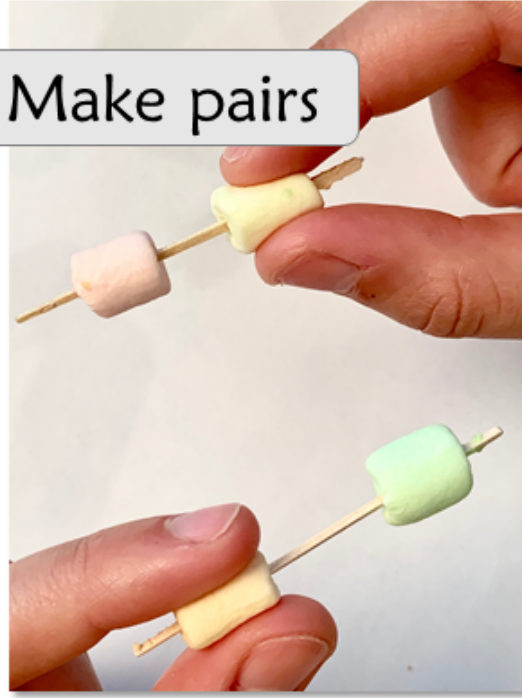
Vocabulary boards are great for ALL students to assist with participation and engagement in group discussions.

Tips on how to use in the unit!!





Supplies



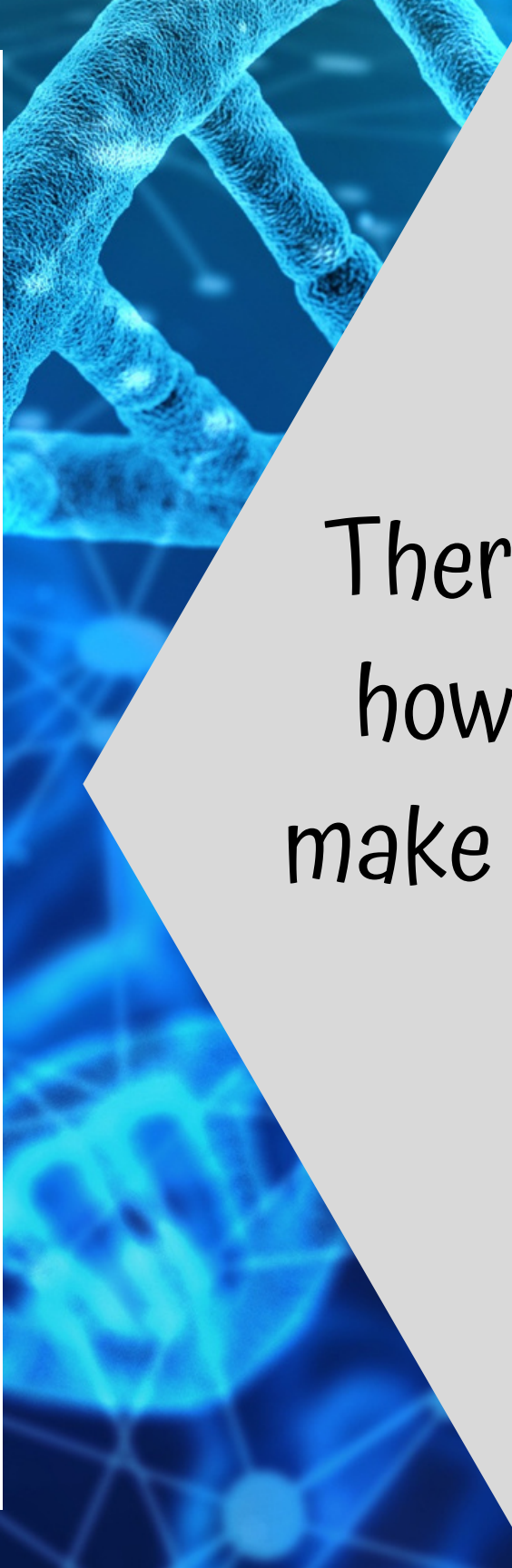
Make pairs



Connect to backbones



Twist



There are directions on how each student can make their own strand of edible DNA.



## double helix

The shape of DNA. Looks like a twisted ladder.



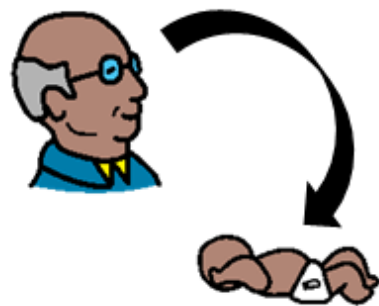
## Watson & Crick

Discovered the double helix shape which helped scientists learn even more about DNA.



## heredity

When certain traits are passed down from one generation to the next.



## dominant

When present, this trait will be seen, like brown eyes.



*This unit comes with 20 vocabulary cards.*

*Every day* students will do a group activity using these cards to get more familiar with words that are likely new to them.

## genetics

Learning how traits are passed down from parents to offspring.



## gene

Made up of DNA. Carry the information about the specific traits that are passed down.



## DNA

The actual code or information about the traits.

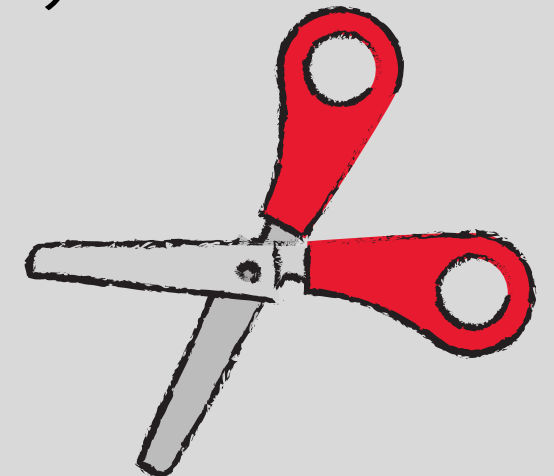


## chromosome

Made up of DNA, they tell the cell what to do.



Students will also test their knowledge of these new words and symbols with a cut and paste activity on days 7&8. Students match the picture to the definition (easier). Or, students match the definition to the picture (harder).



## Gregor Mendel



## allele



## nucleotide



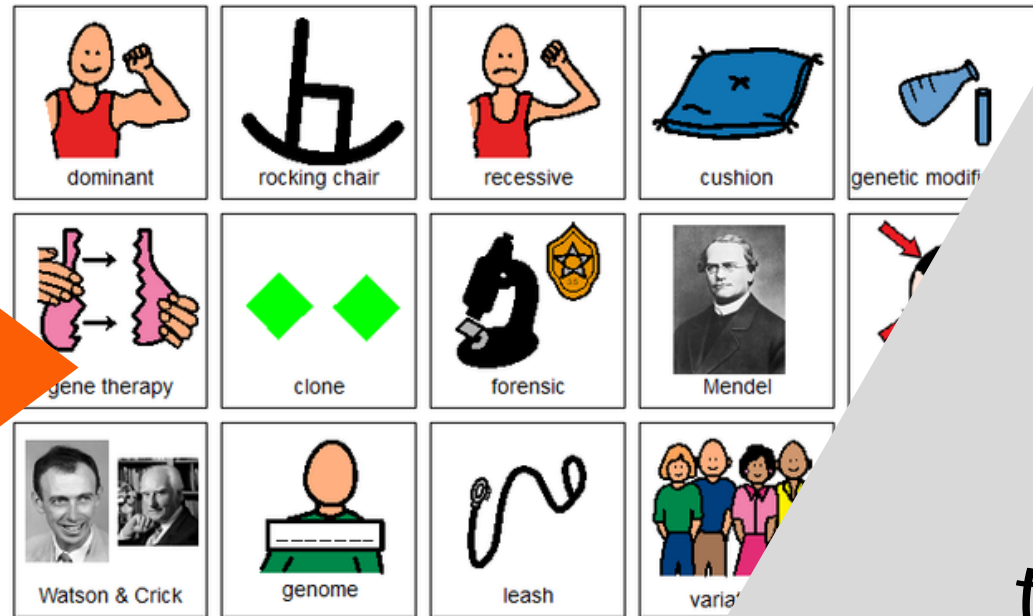
## nucleus



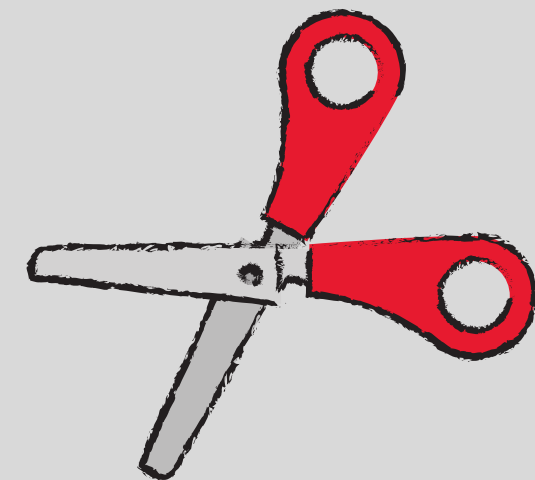
The brain of the cell. Contains the chromosomes that tell the cell what to do.	Made up of DNA, they tell the cell what to do.
This trait will only be seen if you have 2 matching genes of the same trait, like blue eyes.	When certain traits are passed down from parents.
Made up of DNA, they tell the cell what to do.	Accidents that occur when genes are passed down from parents.
When doctors can fix a broken gene. They are still working on this.	Specific sequence of DNA that controls traits like hair or eye color.
When present, this trait will always be seen, like brown eyes.	The traits you inherit mix and combine in different ways so we all look different from one another.



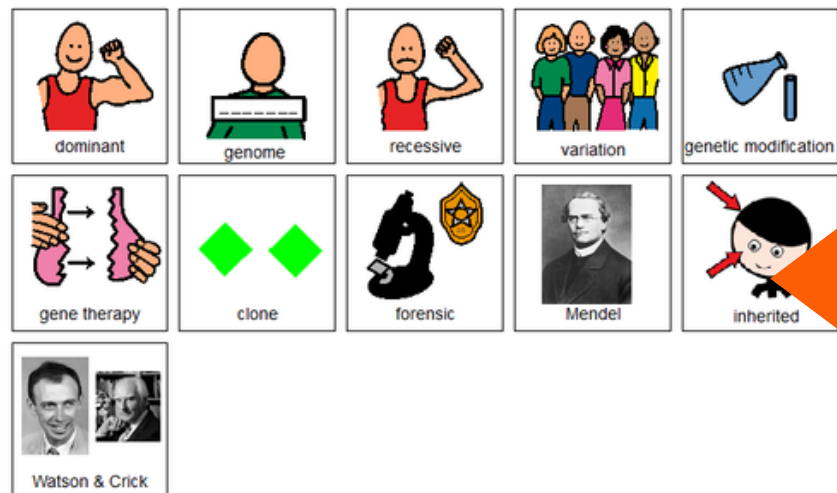
wrong answers  
mixed in



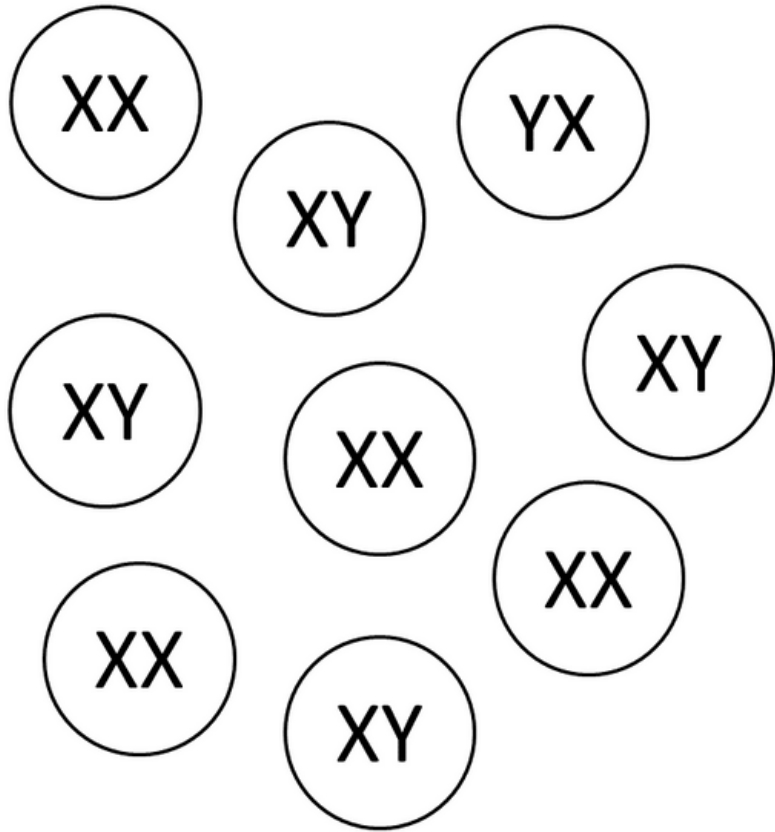
There are 2 circle maps in this unit. Each has a version that is errorless and one that has wrong answers mixed in that students will set aside.



errorless



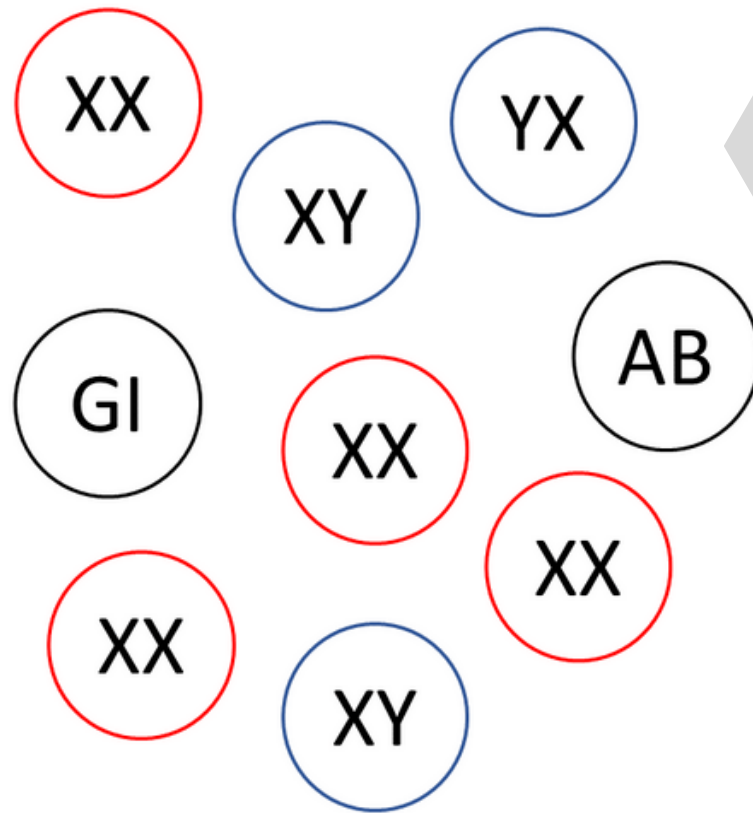
Color all the cells that would become a girl red and all the cells that would become a boy blue.



Christa Joy, Special Needs for Special Kids  
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with color coding

Color all the cells that would become a girl red and all the cells that would become a boy blue.



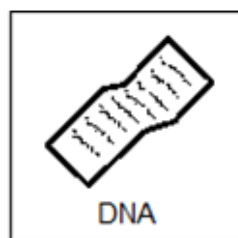
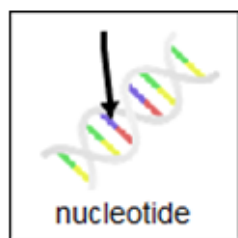
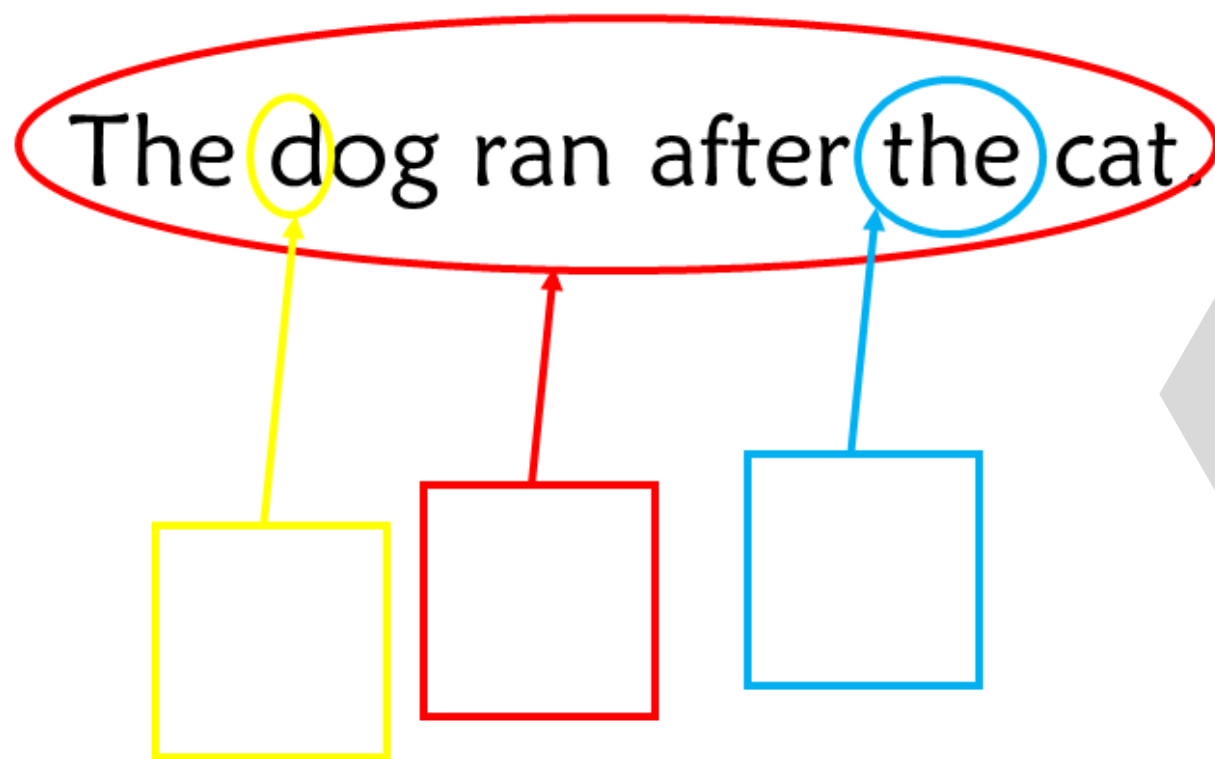
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There are is an activity where students will look at a cell and determine if it would be a boy or a girl. A color coded version is included.



Add color coding to answer choices if needed.

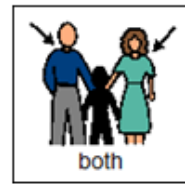
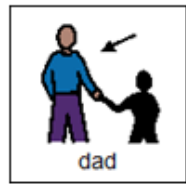
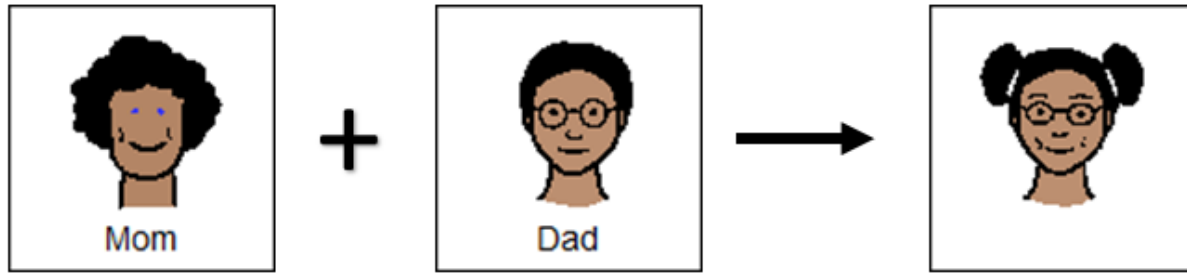
Look at this sentence, and decide which would be nucleotides, which would be DNA, and which would be alleles.



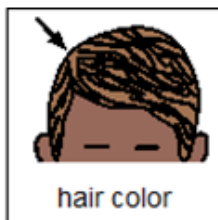
There are labeling worksheets included in this unit. Each one comes in a color coded option.

Students look at a simple sentence and label it as though it were a strand of DNA.

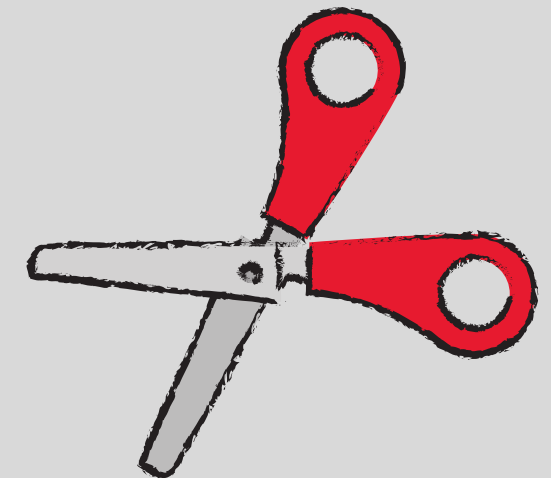
*How to this is modeled in the book.*



--	--	--



Students will look at a family and practice identifying which traits came from which parent. Suggestions for differentiation are included.





# Genes and Heredity






Harder










		 clone			
				 variation	
 mutation	 gene	 chromosome			
 dominant		 variation			
	 mutation		 clone		
 clone				 gene	



easier

# Genes and Heredity

 recessive				
	 forensic		 recessive	
				 gene

 gene	 gene	 chromosome	 chromosome	 forensic
 forensic	 forensic	 recessive	 recessive	

There are 2 Sudoku puzzles included. These are to help practice more with the new vocabulary.

The hard version is a 6x6 puzzle. The easy one is 4x4.

Answer key included.

## Genes

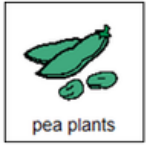
1. The instructions for the cell are found in the .

2. Genes carry the  for the cell.

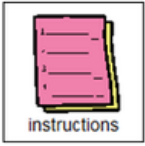
3. Genes are made of DNA which consist of .

4. Every person has  chromosomes.

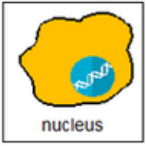
5. Gregor Mendel, the father of genetics, worked with .



pea plants



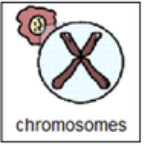
instructions



nucleus



46



chromosomes

## Heredity & Science

1. Heredity looks at traits that are passed down from  to child.

2. Some traits always show up and are .

3.  traits need the same gene from Mom and Dad.

4. The genome is the complete set of  for a plant or animal.

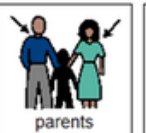
5.  allows there to be differences in the population.



variation



dominant



parents



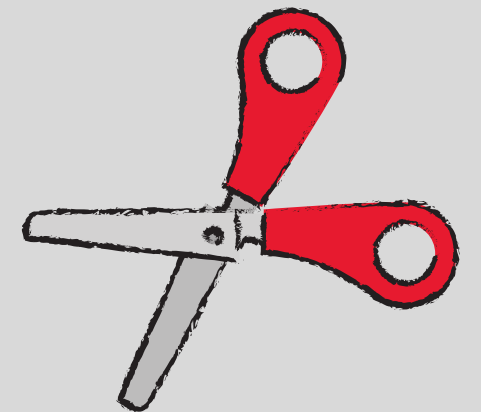
recessive



genes

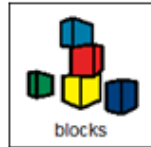
There are 4 close worksheets included for a review. 2 cover genes and 2 cover heredity and science.

Answer key included.

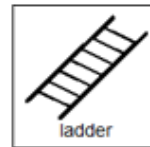
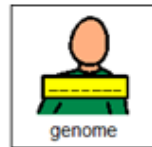
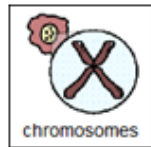




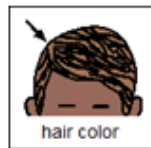
1. These are the basis of heredity and are made of DNA.



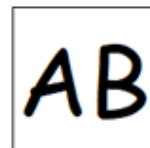
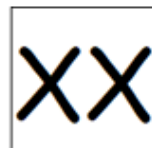
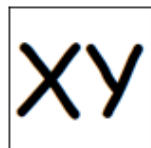
2. We have 46 of these and they are found in the nucleus.



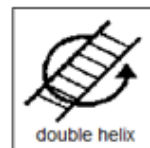
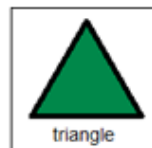
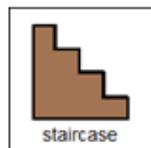
3. Alleles are sequences of DNA that determines things like:



4. Which of the following chromosome sets would be a girl?



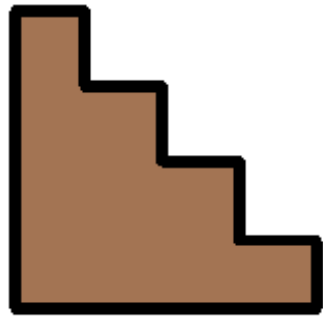
5. What is the shape of a DNA molecule?



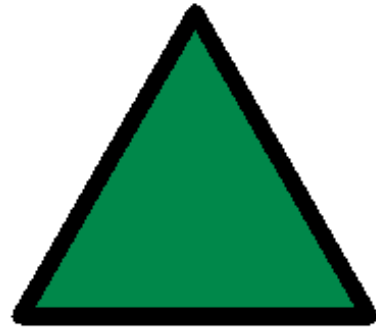
*FINALLY* the assessment!!  
There are 3 versions. This version has 10 questions with 3 picture choices for each question.

Answer key included.

Q 5



staircase



triangle



double helix

Q 6



dominant



recessive



mutation

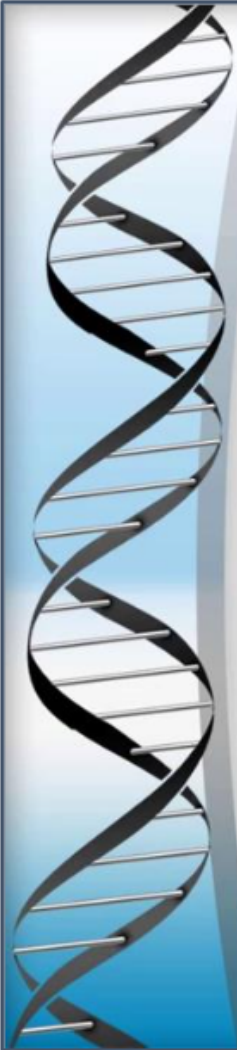
*With this version, you cut out the answer choices and glue them on index cards. Ask the student the question, and they point to the correct answer.*



1. These are the basis of heredity and are made of DNA.
  - A. blocks
  - B. mutations
  - C. genes
2. We have 46 of these and they are found in the nucleus.
  - A. chromosomes
  - B. genomes
  - C. ladders
3. Alleles are sequences of DNA that determines things like:
  - A. hair color
  - B. address
  - C. language you speak
4. Which of the following chromosome sets would be a girl?
  - A. XY
  - B. XX
  - C. AB
5. What is the shape of a DNA molecule?
  - A. staircase
  - B. triangle
  - C. double helix
6. These genes are stronger and are always visible when present.
  - A. dominant
  - B. recessive
  - C. mutation

*There is also a traditional multiple choice version. You can also use this to record student answers if using the version with index cards.*

Watch the movie on  
Genes and the Magic  
Code



These individuals will be more likely to survive and pass their traits on to their children. Variation can make a population of people, plants, or animals stronger.



Christa Joy, Special Needs for Special Kids







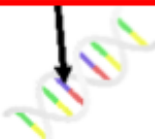


*This unit also has digital activities. There is a movie version of the books students can listen to read aloud.*



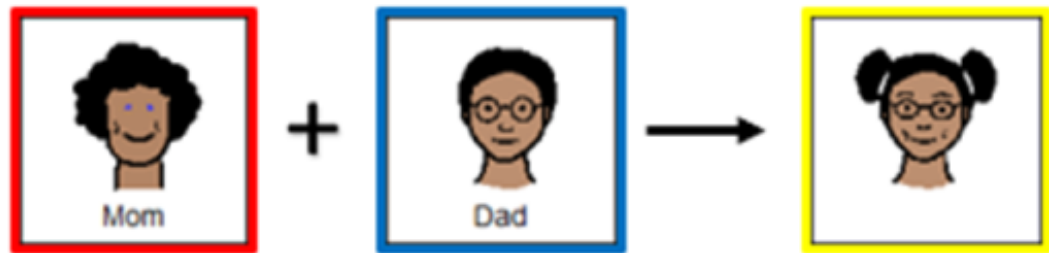


Day 1  
differentiated

Place pictures in circle map about genes.

 chromosome	 genome	 DNA	 nucleus	 gene
 double helix	 nucleotides	 Mendel	 alleles	 Watson & Crick

The digital activities have students click and drag their answers.



Day 5  
differentiated

Sort the following traits into the correct column depending on who you think they came from.



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There are 2 sets of slides. One set has color-coding for more support.



***This resource comes in a zipped folder. You will need to unzip the folder to access all the contents which include:***

- ***11 days of lesson plans***
- ***Genes and Heredity activities in color***
- ***Genes and Heredity activities in black and white***
- ***Genes and Heredity book (PowerPoint) to use with activities***
- ***Links and directions to digital activities***