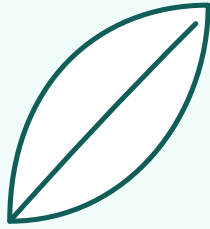


Inherited Traits

7th Grade

Why you look like your parents but are not identical to either.



Traits are passed on through genes. You get one copy of each gene from each parent.

- A gene is a section of DNA carrying instructions for one trait.
- You inherit two versions of each gene, one from each parent.
- A dominant version shows even when only one copy is present.
- A recessive version only shows when both copies are recessive.
- Some traits are learned, not inherited — speaking a language, riding a bike.
- Environment affects inherited traits too: height depends on genes and nutrition.

LOOK FOR IT

Two brown-eyed parents can have a blue-eyed child if both carry the recessive version.

Inherited means passed on in genes. Acquired means gained during life. Only the first is passed to offspring.