**Unit 1: Heredity**

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| **S5L2. Students will recognize that offspring can resemble parents in inherited traits and learned behaviors.** a. Compare and contrast the characteristics of learned behaviors and of inherited traits. b. Discuss what a gene is and the role genes play in the transfer of traits. **Essential Vocabulary:*** characteristics
* inherited
* trait
* offspring
* innate
* instinctive behaviors
* learned behaviors
* dominant traits
* recessive traits

**What Students Should Know:*** Genes are contained in codes of DNA and are transferable from parent to offspring as inheritable traits.
* Behavior is what an animal does and how it does those things.
* Genetic traits can influence an animal’s behavior.
* Behaviors that are influenced by genetic traits are called innate behaviors or fixed action pattern behaviors.
* The environment or experience can influence behavior.
* Behaviors that are influenced by environment or experience are called learned behaviors.

**What Students Should Be Able To Do*** Explain what genes are and how they are passed from parent to offspring as traits.
* Identify examples of inherited traits.
* Distinguish between learned behavior and inherited behavior.
* Identify examples of learned behaviors.
* Explain the role genes play in how offspring look and behave.

Web resources...[HowStuffWorks.com](http://howstuffworks.com/) - [Heredity Information](http://science.howstuffworks.com/environmental/life/genetic/heredity-info.htm)[The Gene School](http://www.exploringnature.org/db/detail.php?dbID=22&detID=2290) [Genetics Activity - Create the Kids](http://www.exploringnature.org/db/detail.php?dbID=22&detID=2290)[Punnett Square Activity](http://www.exploringnature.org/db/detail.php?dbID=22&detID=2290)[Genetics, Kid Style!](http://library.thinkquest.org/3696/index2.htm) |

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