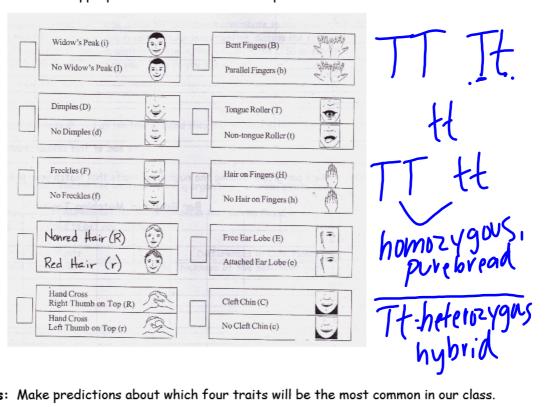
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Traits Inventory Lab

Background: The characteristics, or traits, of a living organism are determined by its genes. Genes are the sections of DNA that are passed from a parent to its offspring, or child. This is true for all living organisms from ones as basic as bacteria to something as complex as a human. The combination of genes animals receive from their parents will determine which traits it shows. Some examples of some traits are shown below.

Problem: Which traits are most common in a classroom of 7th graders?

Observations: Determine whether your phenotype, or appearance, is dominant or recessive for each trait. Write the appropriate letters in the boxes provided.



Predictions: Make predictions about which four traits will be the most common in our class.

Explain why you picked the four that you listed.

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Why do you think some traits are more common than others?

Data: Collect data from the class to show the breakdown in the different traits.

	Trait	Number of People in Class	Total Number of People in Class	Percent
Widow's Peak	Yes (i) No (I)	1-20	^	
Dimples	Yes (D) No (d)	1900		
Freckles	Yes (F) No (f)	7 19		
Red Hair	No (R) Yes (r)	26	1	
Hand Cross	Right on Top (R) Left on Top (r)	1015	20	
Fingers	Bent (B) Parallel (b)	100		
Tongue Roller	Yes (T) No (t)	वेवेन		
Hair on Fingers	Yes (H) No (h)	17 9		
Ear Lobes	Free (E) Attached (e)	15	V	
Cleft Chin	Yes (C) No (c)	33/		

Analysis: Create a bar graph showing the frequency of each trait.

Conclusions: Based on your results, answer the following questions.

1. Which four traits were most common?

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2. Were any of the most common traits considered recessive or weaker traits?

3. What other traits does a person have besides the ones we can see on the outside? (Hint: What about you makes you different from every other person?)

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