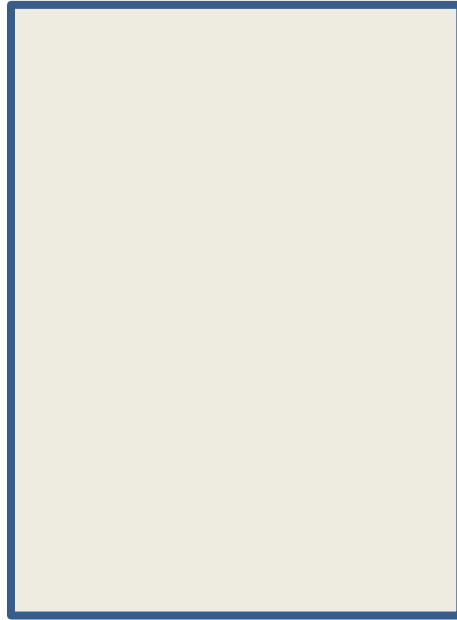


How Are We Alike? – Examining Physical Traits



Me and My _____

Circle the physical traits that you share. Fill in the information for each trait.

Hair Color

Eye Color

Curly Hair

Dimples

Attached Earlobes

Use the Same Hand

Yes No

Yes No

Yes No

In your own words, describe what a physical trait is _____

Give an example of a non-physical characteristic that you both share.

Parent Sheet

Dear Parent,

We have been learning about physical traits in science class by looking at plants and animals and how the offspring (child) is similar to, identical to, or different from the parent.

This activity asks students to examine traits that have been passed down through their genes. The child can participate with a biological parent since we are looking at inherited traits, or a sibling where they can examine which traits they both inherited. Students can even participate with a grandparent.

If you are helping them with this activity, you may need to have some information about the different types of traits:

- Eye color – what is the natural eye color of the person.
- Hair color – what is the natural hair color of the person. Please have the adults use the natural color of their hair when they were young adults.
- Curly Hair – Did you know that curly hair is an inherited trait? Do you have curly hair naturally?
- Dimples are also inherited. Do you have these small indentations on your cheeks?
- Attached earlobes – When you look at the bottom of your ear where it meets your face, if the earlobe comes down to the face and directly connect they are attached. If they hang free and do not attach to the side of your face, they are unattached.
- Right handed or left handed – Which hand do you use?

Parents and children also have other traits that are non-physical such as what language they speak, music they listen to and others. What is something that the student shares with the person they are comparing themselves to in this activity?

Thank you for your help in having students learn about inherited traits.