

Genetics Vocabulary

Trait- a characteristic

Gene-a set of instructions for a trait

Alleles-different forms of a trait

Dominant- a trait that will always show itself

Recessive- a trait that stays hidden unless both genes are recessive

Genotype- the genes present for a trait

Phenotype- the trait that shows up for the genes

Purebred- an organism that has the same alleles for a gene

Hybrid- an organism that has different alleles for a gene

DNA- the information inside the nucleus that has genes on it

Double-helix – the shape of DNA

Base – the codes in DNA that give all of the information for living things

Punnett Square – a tool used to find the possible combinations of alleles from a set of parents

Mutations – a mistake in the copying of DNA that changes the order of the bases

Mutagen – something that causes a mutation