**Traits – Inherited vs. Acquired**

**Traits** or **Characteristics** are:

Examples:





Traits can be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_:

* They describe the way something \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* They describe the internal \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Examples:

Traits can also be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_:



* They describe the way something \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* They describe something that was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Examples:

Traits can be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_



**Genetic or Inherited Traits**

* Inherited traits are coded in your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Received from your biological \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Inherited behaviours are often called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Because they are coded in your \_\_\_\_\_\_ they can be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ to the next generation

Examples:

**Acquired Traits**

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ during your life (you are not born with it)
* Not in your DNA
* Cannot be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to the next generation

Examples:

**Mutations**

Mutations are traits that ARE in the DNA of an organism that ARE NOT present in the DNA of the parents.

Mutations are traits caused by genetic accidents or mistakes in copying DNA. These traits can be beneficial, harmful, or neutral.

These traits can be passed on to future generations, though harmful mutations usually are not passed on because the organism affected will be less likely to reproduce.

**Physical Traits** can be both:

* Inherited

And

* Acquired

**Behavioural Traits** can be both:

* Inherited

And

* Acquired

Some traits are a combination of both!

Example: Skin color is partly inherited and acquired