



Dear Educator,

This file offers views of some of the worksheets in our “**Heredity**” thematic unit. The cover for an eWorkbook is shown followed by the preview pages.

The “**Heredity**” unit offers **15 pages**.

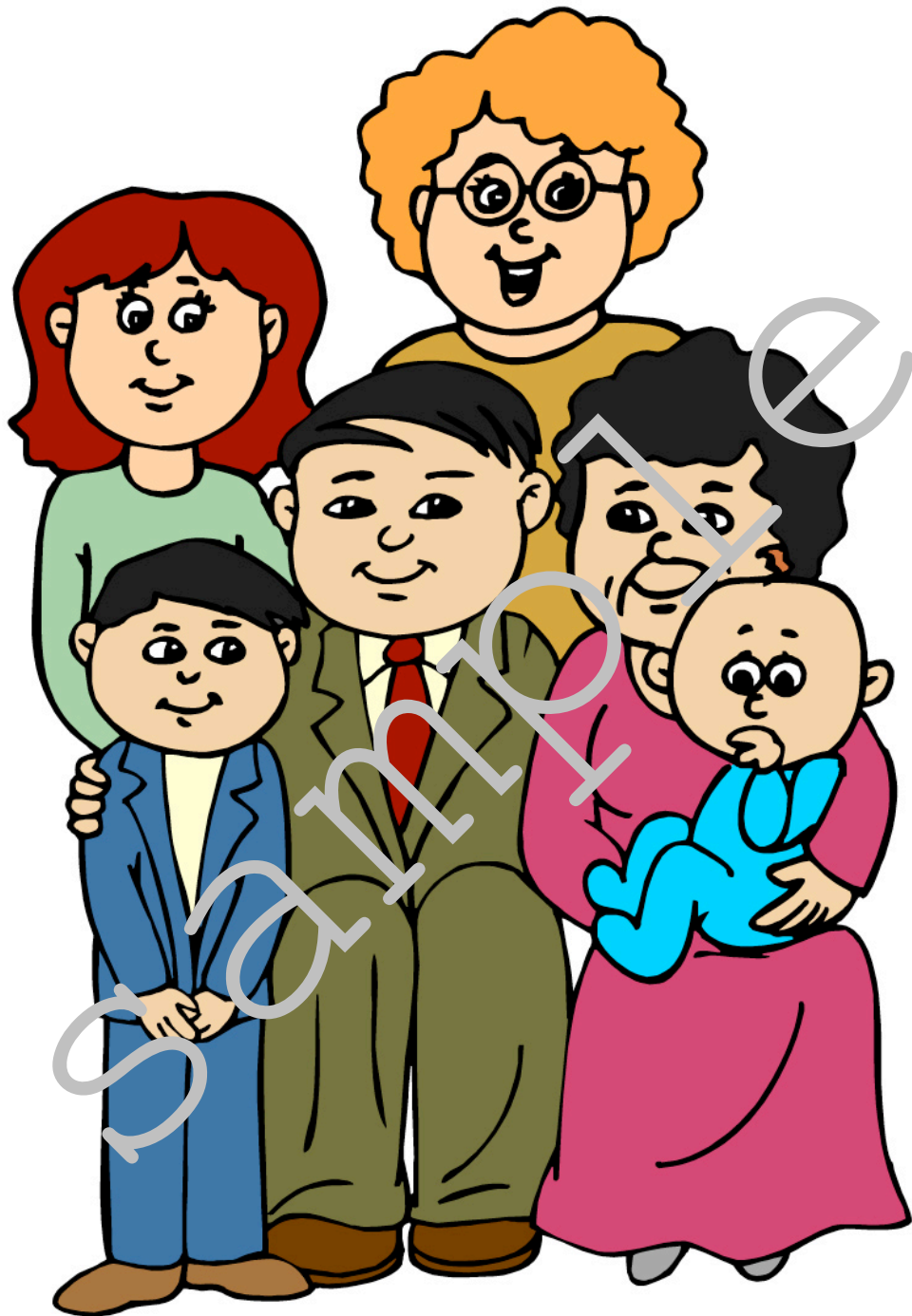
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Heredity



HEREDITY



Heredity is the thing that makes you what you are. You get certain traits from your mother and father. Traits have been passed to them from their mothers and fathers. Traits were passed to your grandparents from their mothers and fathers. So it goes down the history of your family. You have tiny pieces of all the people in your blood line. These are called genes.



Genes are tiny little pieces of information that are attached to your chromosomes. Chromosomes are shaped like long ladders that have been twisted around a soda straw. They are very, very tiny. Each chromosome has the recipe that makes you what you are.

Each part of your body gets information from the chromosome about how it is supposed to grow and what its job is. All of this happens before you are born.



Some genes will decide how tall you will become. Some will define your body shape. The shape of your face, hands, and even feet are part of your genetic inheritance.

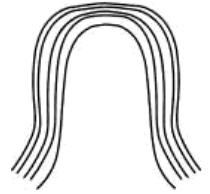
Read each sentence below. Fill in the missing word.

1. _____ is the thing that makes you what you are.
2. Traits have been passed on to you from your mother and _____.

HEREDITY

Did you know that if you can curl your tongue into a “U” shape in your mouth, you inherited that from your family? Ask your family members to try it.

Is your hair curly or straight, or maybe wavy? The color of your hair is inherited. Many people that have blond or red hair as children will have it get darker as they get older, but the original color will usually match what their mother or father had as a child.



On your hands, you will have inherited a few things. Hold your hand up in a relaxed position with the fingers together. Sometimes the ‘pinkie’ finger will lay close to the ring finger. Sometimes it tilts away from the ring finger at the top.



The length of your thumb and whether it is double-jointed is inherited. Fold your hands together and lace the fingers. Some people will put the thumb of the right hand on top, others the thumb from the left hand. This is inherited. Also inherited is the way you fold your arms in front of your chest. Which hand do you place on top of your arm, right or left?

Answer the questions below. Write your answer on the line.

What color is your hair? _____

Is your hair curly or straight? _____

A large, empty rectangular box with rounded corners and a green border, intended for a student to draw their hair.

Draw your hair.

A large, empty rectangular box with rounded corners and a green border, intended for a student to draw their hand.

Draw your hand.



HEREDITY

CRISS CROSS

Can you fit these words into the criss cross?
Use a pencil so you can erase if you need to.

eyes
hands

genes
heredity

peas
body

family
parents

