

Genetics Vocabulary

Allele – the different forms of a gene

Chromosome – a structure inside the nucleus of a cell, which contains the genetic information for that cell

Dominant Allele – an allele whose trait always shows up in the organism when the allele is present

Gene – the set of information that controls a trait; a segment of DNA on a chromosome that codes for a specific trait

Genetics – the scientific study of heredity

Heredity – the passing of traits from parents to offspring

Recessive Allele – an allele that is masked when a dominant allele is present

Trait – a characteristic that an organism can pass on to its offspring through its genes