

# Reading Comprehension Worksheet



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## The Genetic Puzzle

Have you ever wondered why you have the same eye color as your mom or the same curly hair as your dad? The answer lies in your genes, the tiny units inside your cells that determine your traits. Genes are like a set of instructions that tell your body how to grow and develop.

Genes are passed down from parents to children, which is why family members often share similar characteristics. However, each person's combination of genes is unique, making each individual special. Scientists have been studying genes for years to understand how they impact our health, appearance, and even personality.

Sometimes, genes can have mutations, which are changes that can cause genetic disorders. These disorders may affect a person's ability to see, hear, or move. However, researchers are constantly working to find ways to treat these conditions and improve people's lives.

In recent years, genetic testing has become more common, allowing individuals to learn more about their ancestry and potential health risks. By analyzing a person's DNA, scientists can uncover valuable information that may help in preventing certain diseases or customizing medical treatments.

Understanding the genetic puzzle is like solving a mystery that reveals the secrets hidden within our cells. As technology advances, we continue to unlock the complexities of genetics, paving the way for a healthier and more informed future.

# Questions

1. What are genes, and how do they influence our traits?

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2. Why do family members often share similar characteristics?

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3. What are mutations in genes, and how can they impact a person's health?

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4. How has genetic testing become more common, and what information can it provide?

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5. Why is understanding genetics important for our future?

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## Answer Key

1. Genes are like a set of instructions that determine our traits by telling our bodies how to grow and develop.
2. Family members often share similar characteristics because they inherit genes from their parents.
3. Mutations are changes in genes that can cause genetic disorders affecting a person's health.
4. Genetic testing has become more common, providing information about ancestry and potential health risks by analyzing DNA.
5. Understanding genetics is important for our future as it helps in preventing diseases and customizing medical treatments.