Student Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Determining Traits Coin Activity**

**Background:** The coin represents the gene pair of the parent. The heads side of the coin represents one allele or form of the gene and tails the other allele. Each parent will contribute only one gene to the offspring.

**Procedure:**

1. Allow one person in the group to toss one coin to determine gender. Heads indicates the offspring is a female, tails indicates a male.

|  |
| --- |
| 2. Both partners will now toss a coin at the same time for each row to see which trait pairs your offspring will have. Put a check mark in the appropriate column. |
| 3. Once all traits have been determined, each of you will draw your own version of your offspring on a blank piece of paper. **It is ok if they do not look exactly alike**. 4. Write a **brief paragraph explaining which recessive** traits you had to draw. 5. Turn in this paper with your drawing. |
|  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Gender of Offspring: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Name of Offspring: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Date of birth: January 7, 2011 (Your child is in kindergarten this year.)****Data Table:** |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Trait** | **dominant** | **hybrid** | **recessive** |
|  | **(both heads)** | **(1 heads, 1 tails)** | **(both tails)** |
| **EXAMPLE:** |  **RR** |  **Rr** |  **rr** |
| **shape of face** |   |   |   |
| **cleft in chin** |   |   |   |
| **hair** |   |   |   |
| **widow's peak** |   |   |   |
| **spacing of eyes** |   |   |   |
| **shape of eyes** |   |   |   |
| **position of eyes** |   |   |   |
| **size of eyes** |   |   |   |
| **length of eyelashes** |   |   |   |
| **shape of eyebrows** |   |   |   |
| **position of eyebrows** |   |   |   |
| **size of nose** |   |   |   |
| **shape of lips** |   |   |   |
| **size of ears** |   |   |   |
| **size of mouth** |   |   |   |
| **freckles** |   |   |   |
| **dimples** |   |   |   |



