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Inheritance Patterns In Dragon Answer Key

Dragon Genetics
— Independent Assortment and Genetic Linkage

The article by Dr. Lynn Helms and David Strimling, Department of Biology, University of Pennsylvania, 2016. Downloaded from https://www.researchgate.net/publication/308120108_Dragon_Genetics. Original content by Dr. Lynn Helms and David Strimling, Department of Biology, University of Pennsylvania, 2016.

In this activity you will study the patterns of inheritance of multiple genes in (imaginary) dragons. These dragons have two pairs of homologous chromosomes in each cell. You will see that, since genes are carried on chromosomes, the patterns of inheritance are determined by the behavior of chromosomes during meiosis and fertilization.

The Law of Independent Assortment
— Inheritance of Genes on Different Chromosomes

For this activity, we will only consider one gene on each chromosome. These genes are described in the following table:

Chromosome	Dragonfly Alleles	Dragonfly Alleles
Chromosome 1	H = tall wings h = no wings	w = no wings W = small horns
Chromosome 2	H = tall horns h = small horns	

The mother dragon is heterozygous for the wing gene (Hh) and the horn gene (Hh). The father is homozygous recessive for the wing gene (hh) and the horn gene (hh). What phenotypic traits will each parent have? (Phenotypic traits are the observable bodily characteristics.) Draw the appropriate characteristics for each parent.

Mother:  Father: 

Review of Inheritance of Single Genes

Draw a Punnett Square to show the inheritance of the horn alleles for a mating between this mother and father.

On average, what fraction of the baby dragons will have big horns?

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