## Probabilities in Genetics

## Vocabulary terms

Genes

Traits

Alleles

Dominant
Recessive

Independent assortment

Notes

## Practice

## Mendel's Flower Garden

1. Gregor Mendel crosses (mates) a purple/purple flower with a purple/white flower, what is the probability that an offspring flower is purple? Purple and carries a white allele?

2. Gina the Geneticist breeds 1,000 flowers in his garden and observes 497 purple flowers and 503 white flowers. What alleles do the parent flowers carry?

## Pig tails

3. Mother Pig has two alleles for straight tail, and Father Pig has two alleles for curly tail. If curly tail is dominant to straight tail, what is the probability that their baby pigs will have straight tails?

4. Sally Pig has a curly tail. If both Mother and Father Pig have curly tails and Brother Pig has a straight tail, what is the probability Sally is heterozygous for tail shape? (Heterozygous means having both a dominant and a recessive allele)


## Two genes

5. Given the traits of the parents below, what is the probability an offspring is yellow/green AND wrinkled/smooth? Yellow is dominant to green. Wrinkled is dominant to smooth.

6. Given the traits of the parents below, what is the probability an offspring pea plant is yellow AND smooth? Yellow is dominant to green. Wrinkled is dominant to smooth.

7. Given the traits of the parents below, what is the probability an offspring is yellow/green OR wrinkled/smooth?

X
yellow/green green/green
smooth/smooth wrinkled/smooth
8. Given the traits of the parents below, what is the probability an offspring is yellow $\mathbf{O R}$ smooth?

9. Gina the Geneticist decides to inspect her pigs' tails a little more closely and finds that not only are there differences in shape but also hairiness. If Mama Pig has a hairy curly tail (heterozygote) and Papa Pig has a smooth straight tail, what is the probability Baby Pig has a hairy curly tail? Hairy is dominant to smooth. Curly is dominant to straight.

## Wrinkled hairy pig tails

10. Given the allele combinations of Mama and Papa Pig, what is the probability Baby Pig is wrinkled/smooth, hairy/hairy, curly/straight? The three genes independently assort.

|  | Texture | Hairiness | Straightness |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Mama Pig | smooth/smooth | hairy/hairless | curly/curly |
| Papa Pig | wrinkled/smooth | hairy/hairless | curly/straight |

