**Traits and Behaviors Assessment Study Guide**

**Offspring:** New living things that come from parents

**Gene:** The part of a chromosome that contains the DNA code for an inherited trait.

**Inherited trait:** A characteristic passed from parents to their offspring.

**Acquired trait:** A characteristic that a living thing is not born with, but acquires during its lifetime.

**Instinct:** A behavior that an organism inherits

**Learned behavior:** A behavior that an animal acquired through experience.

**EXAMPLES:**

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| **Inherited Traits**DimplesAttached earlobesThe color of your eyesThe shape of your noseThe shape of a plant’s leavesWhether or not it produces seedsThe shape of a bird’s beakThe color of your skinFrecklesRolling your tongue | **Acquired Traits**Pierced earsPurple hairBroken bonesScarsA chipped toothMuscles Wearing glasses |
| **Instincts**Needing to eat to surviveA bird building a nestA lion hunting it’s preyFlinching at loud noisesSleepingA spider building a webA bear hibernating in winterA turtle burying it’s eggsBirds flying south for winter | **Learned Behaviors**Speaking a second languageEating with chopsticksDoing cartwheelsReadingTying shoelacesWritingA dog rolling over on command A dog fetching a ball and bringing it back |