

## Dog Traits

**Developed by:** Linda Fenton

**Discipline / Subject:** Science

**Topic:** Genetic Traits

**Grade Level:** 3, 4, 5

**Resources / References / Materials Teacher Needs:**

*Dogs of the Iditarod* by Jeff Schults

Trait Circle

Dice

Activity Sheet

Plain Paper

Crayons or color pencils

**Lesson Summary:**

Look at traits of sled dogs and discuss the different traits. Using the dice, determine the traits of your dog.

**Standard's Addressed: (Local, State, or National)**

**Common Core Standards Science (Draft) – Life Cycles & Traits**

1. Obtain and communicate information about different versions of the same traits in different kinds of organisms.
2. Obtain information to explain how breeders use variations in traits to produce desired types of domesticated organisms

**Learning Objectives:**

Dog Traits.

**Method of assessment for learning**

Activity Sheet  
Answers to Questions

**Procedural Activities**

1. Read the book or look at several pictures from the book *Dogs of the Iditarod* by Jeff Schultz.
2. Discuss how dogs have different traits and what they are. How are they the same, how are they different.
3. Pass out Activity Sheet and discuss how to fill out sheet.
4. Discuss the odds of each trait. (Ex. Are you more likely, equally likely, less likely for each trait)
5. Have students shake the dice to determine each trait for their dog.
6. Fill in the Trait Circle.
7. Have students look at other Trait Circles. Ask these questions:  
Is there another dog just like yours?  
Is there a dog exactly opposite of yours?
8. Students can draw their dog based on its traits.

**Materials Students Need:**

Activity sheet

Dice

Trait Circle

Crayons or color pencils

Plain Paper

**Technology Utilized to Enhance Learning:****Other Information:**

Students can compare pictures to see how close they come to another's picture.

**Modifications for Special Learners/ Enrichment Opportunities:**

# Activity Sheet

## Dog Traits

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Roll the dice for each trait and mark your answers. After you are done, fill in the Dog Traits Sheet by coloring the correct section.

1. Is your dog a male or female? \_\_\_\_\_

Odd number = Male (XY)

Even number = Female (XX)

2. What color is your dog's eyes? \_\_\_\_\_

Numbers 1-4 = Brown (E)

Numbers 5-6 = Blue (e)

3. What color is your dog's fur? \_\_\_\_\_

Even number = Black & White (F)

Odd number = Red & Brown (f)

4. Are the ears floppy or straight? \_\_\_\_\_

Numbers 1-4 = Straight (R)

Numbers 5-6 = Floppy (r)

5. What is your dog's temperament? \_\_\_\_\_

Number 1 = Shy (T)

Number 2-6 = Outgoing (t)

6. What color is your dogs nose? \_\_\_\_\_

Numbers 1-4 = Black (N)

Number 5-6 = Black with pink streaks (Snow Nose) (n)



