



5th Grade at Zootah

Name: _____

Parents pass down genetic traits to their children. Most of these traits can be considered an *inherited* trait, such as eye color, skin color, or face shape. Sometimes things happen to us after we are born that change the way we look, but we did not get them from our parents. For example, if you fall off your bike and now have a scar on your leg, you did not inherit that from your parents. It was from the environment. Those traits are called *environmental* or *learned* traits.

Think of different traits you have and if they are inherited or environmental.

Inherited	Environmental or learned

Examples:

Hair color
Eye color
Scars
Earrings
Personality

What kind of traits are each of these? Think of more to add to the boxes.

At the zoo, we have some animals that were you can see both the parents, and the babies in the same exhibit. See if you can find them, and list any inherited trait or environmental trait they have. If you cannot see any (sometimes the animals like to hide), then just make up some examples of traits they could possibly have.

Animals	Inherited traits	Environmental traits
Sandhill crane baby		
Muntjac babies		
Baby ducklings		
Reindeer babies		

Hint: think of the color of their fur, feathers, shape of feet, how they hunt, how they move, ect.

Draw an animal below with the following traits. Circle the inherited traits and underline the environmental traits.

-Green fur

-Pointy teeth

-Collar around the neck

-long tail

-Muddy paws

-3 eyes

-half an ear torn off