Parent and Offspring Matching  

3rd Grade PSI

Can you match the parents to the offspring?  
For example, which baby bird belongs to this parent bird?

PARENT:  

BABIES:  

Which traits are the same? Look at the wings, beak and feet.  
Only one of these baby birds belongs to the parent bird.  

Match the offspring to the parents in the following sets. What traits give you the clues?  
Set 1 - Animals with joined legs

Parents

Offspring

www.njctl.org 3rd Grade PSI  Inheritance of Traits
### Questions:

1. What traits did you use to help match the parents and offspring in Set 1?

   __________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________

2. How are the plant parents different from each other in Set 2?

   __________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________
Traits Homework

3rd Grade PSI

Name five genetic traits of this bird, a Toucan.
1. __________________________
2. __________________________
3. __________________________
4. __________________________
5. __________________________

Name five genetic traits of this fish, a Lionfish.
1. __________________________
2. __________________________
3. __________________________
4. __________________________
5. __________________________

Name five genetic traits you have from your parents.
1. __________________________
2. __________________________
3. __________________________
4. __________________________
5. __________________________
Traits are passed from parents to offspring. It is possible to look at traits and determine which baby belongs to which parent, because they have similar traits.

Let’s look at a drawing of a cow to determine the important traits. For example, the size of the ears varies between types of cows.

1. What other characteristics do you think are important to look at?

________________________________________________

________________________________________________

________________________________________________

________________________________________________
Match each parent to its offspring.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
8. Which trait did you use most to match the parent to the calf? Why?
________________________________________________
________________________________________________
________________________________________________

9. Which pair was the easiest to match? What about those cows made it easy to know they were parent and offspring? -
________________________________________________
________________________________________________
________________________________________________

10. THINK. These cows were all different breeds of cattle. Do you know another animal that has different breeds? Give an example of two breeds, and the traits that make them different from each other.
________________________________________________
________________________________________________
________________________________________________

Parent and Offspring Matching Answer Key

Set 1: Animals with joined legs

Parents

Offspring

Questions

1. Answers vary but include color, number and shapes of legs, knowledge from prior unit on metamorphosis.

2. Answers vary but include one parent is rounded and has thin spikey sharp leaves and flowers while the other has stems and wide green leaves with no flowers.
Traits Homework Answer Key:

Answers will vary. Appropriate answers may include:

Toucan:                   Lionfish:
1. It has a large beak       1. It has spines
2. The beak is “banana” shaped     2. The body has stripes
3. The beak has two colors      3. It has gills
4. It has feathers            4. It has scales
5. It has clawed feet.         5. It has a tail
6. The feet do not have feathers    6. It can breathe under water
7. It has yellow and black feathers    7. It is poisonous (they may know)
8. It has a small eye          8. It has fins

Self
1. Hair color
2. Eye color
3. Nose shape
4. Skin color
5. Shape of fingers/toes/hands/ feet/ ears/ lips/ etc.

For The Love of Cows! Answer Key

1 – b, both have very long ears, and a hump on their backs.
2 – c, head shape (especially the forehead), ears
3 – d, head shape, ears, coloring
4 – f, coloring, body shape
5 – e, coloring, body shape (these are actual mother-calf, her face is in the picture a bit)
6 – a, head shape, coloring, bonus, horn nubs on calf
8-10 Answers will vary.