

## gVocabulary “Hot Spots”

Heredity: where we get the term “inherited”; passing down traits

Inherited traits: “observable”; things we can see

Learned Behaviors: Learn; not knowing before

Offspring: “children” which contain traits from both “parents”

**Gene → Chromosome → Nucleus → Cell**

### **Essential Question Questions:**

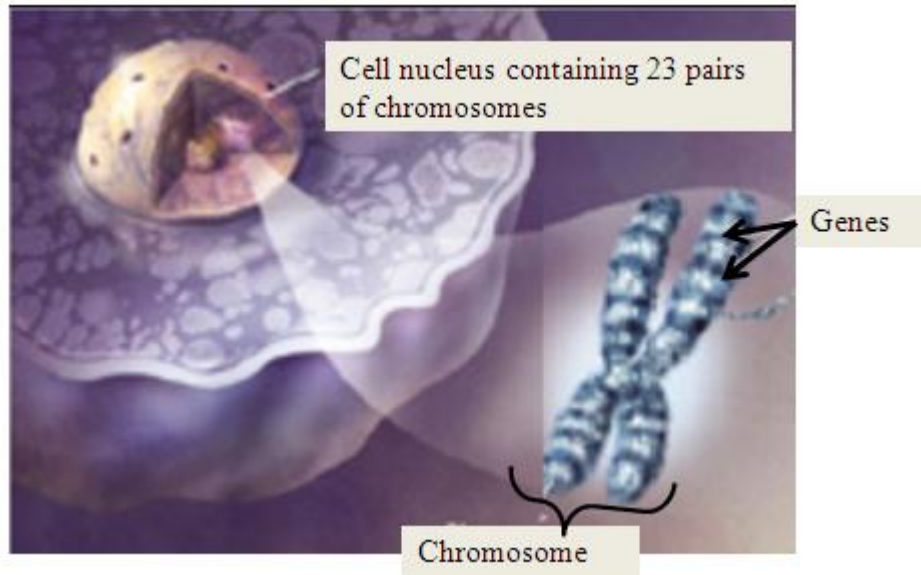
**What are genes?**

**What are chromosomes?**

**Genes** - Inside every cell of each living thing (plant or animal) are sets of instructions called genes. The genes provide the instructions on what is the plant or animal, what it looks like, how it is to survive, and how it will interact with its surrounding environment.

\*The genes are found in the nucleus.

**Chromosomes** are packages of genes. Most living things have pairs of chromosomes (one from each parent), though they may have a different number of chromosomes from another living thing. For example, humans have 23 pairs of chromosomes. Each parent gives their offspring 23 chromosomes.



**Dominant gene** – A dominant gene is the gene that will most likely appear in a living thing. For example, if the gene for blue eyes is a dominant gene it is most likely to appear in any offspring.

**Recessive gene** – A recessive gene is a gene that is **unlikely** to appear in a living thing. For example, if the gene for green eyes is a recessive gene it is most likely **not** to appear in any offspring.