Name _____

The Amazing World of Mendelian Genetics

Short Answer Key

1. Gregor Mendel was a scientist who conducted experiments with pea plants and discovered key principles of inheritance, laying the foundation for the study of genetics.
2. Dominant traits are expressed when present in the gene pair, while recessive traits are only expressed if both gene copies are recessive. For example, if a person has one gene for curly hair (dominant) and one gene for straight hair (recessive), they will have curly hair.
3. Genes contribute to the inheritance of traits by determining the characteristics an organism will have based on the genetic information passed down from its parents.
4. Understanding Mendelian Genetics is helpful in agriculture for selectively breeding plants or animals with desirable traits, and in medicine for understanding genetic disorders and developing treatments.
5. Examples of traits that can be studied using Mendelian Genetics include eye color, height, and the ability to roll one's tongue.

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