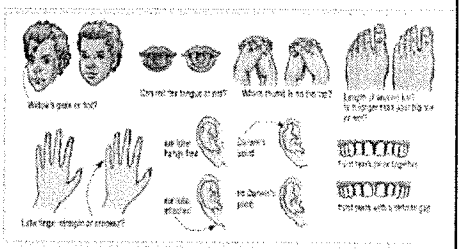
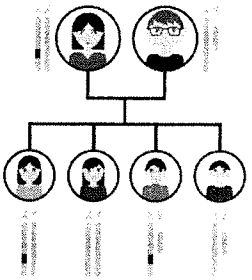
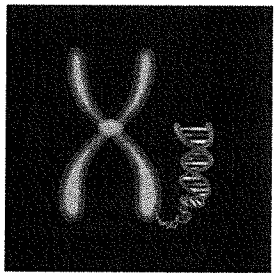
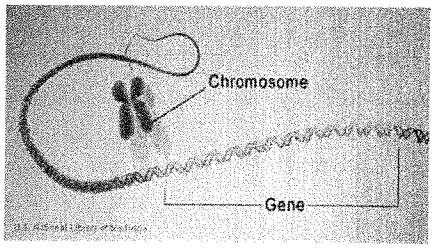
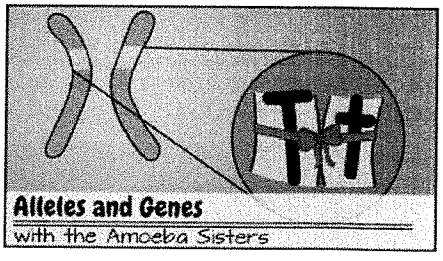
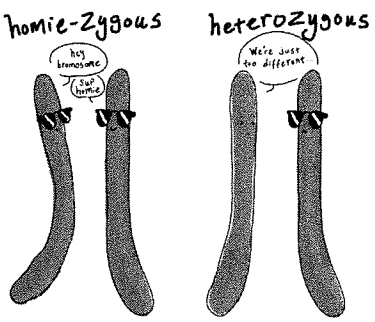
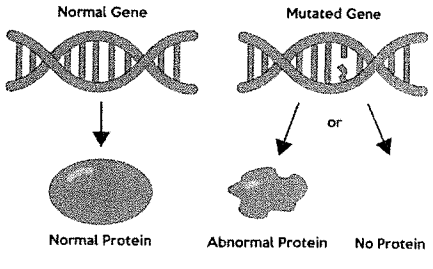
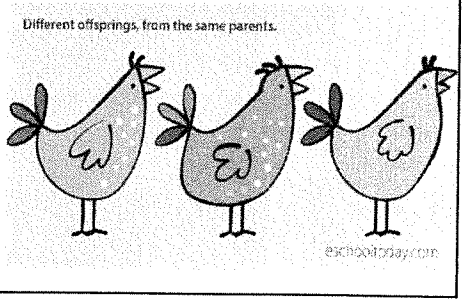
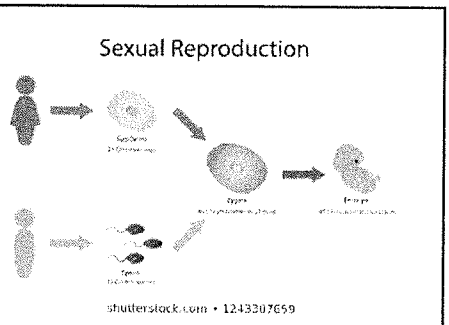
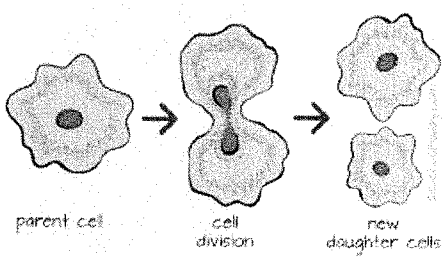
Reproduction and Heredity Unit Vocabulary
Master Copy

Term	Definition	Picture
Traits	**Characteristics that describe an organism. May be inherited or acquired.**	
Inherit	**Passed down from parents to offspring through the genes.**	
Chromosomes	**Strands of coiled DNA that carry the genetic information for an organism.**	
Genes	**Section of DNA that codes for a specific trait.**	
Alleles	**Two alternate forms of the same gene.**	

Dominant	**The trait that will always be expressed.**	A = dominant a = recessive 
Recessive	**The trait that is only expressed if the dominant allele is not present.**	
Homozygous (pure)	**A gene pair that contains both dominant or both recessive alleles.**	
Heterozygous (hybrid)	**A gene pair that contains one dominant and one recessive allele.**	
Mutation	**A random change or mistake in the DNA.**	
Genetic variation	**Differences in the genes of offspring resulting from sexual reproduction and/or mutation.**	

Sexual reproduction	**The production of offspring from two different organisms, inheriting the genes from both parents.**	
Asexual reproduction	**The production of offspring from a single organism, inheriting the genes from that parent only.**	
Pollination	**The transfer of genetic information from one plant to another through pollen usually involving bees, other insects or birds.**