A Recipe for Traits

**A set of instructions called DNA makes a “recipe” for traits in all organisms. Information that codes for a trait is grouped into segments of DNA called genes. Differences in the DNA code are what make differences in gene traits.**

Follow the directions below to create a DNA recipe for a dog. Using the DOG TRAITS KEY, read your DNA code and make a drawing of your dog showing all of its traits.

Directions:

1. Obtain an envelope of DOG DNA
2. Determine the first trait of your dog by randomly picking a piece of dog DNA out of the envelope.
3. Look at the DNA code and match the code to one you see on the DOG TRAITS KEY.
4. Continue until you have identified all 8 traits of your dog.
5. Record the completed DNA strand.
6. When you have finished, draw your dog (virtually or on paper) with all of its traits listed.

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