Genetics is the study of how traits are inherited.

**Genetics** contains the word gene.

Recall a gene is a section of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Genes control the *form* and *function* of organisms. In other words an organism’s traits are in large part determined by their genes.

Genes occur in pairs, with one half of each pair coming from the mother and the other half coming from the father.

Each form of the gene is called an allele.

**Heredity** is the passing of traits from parents to offspring. You inherit traits like dimples from your parents.