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Genes and Inheritance

Genes are inherited as units, with parents dividing out their genes to their offspring. You can think of this process like mixing two hands of cards, shuffling them, and then dealing them out again. Humans have two copies of each of their genes and when people reproduce they make copies of their genes in eggs or sperm, but only put in one copy of each type of gene. An egg then joins with a sperm to give a child with a new set of genes. This child will have the same number of genes as its parents but for any gene one of their two copies will come from the father, and one from the mother.