

L44 — Variation Within a Species

Read Aloud Passage

No two members of a species are identical. Those differences are called variation. A trait is one feature at a time. Traits are what we actually measure and compare.

Inherited traits come from parents through genes. Acquired traits come from a living thing's own life and stop with it. Genes set what is possible. The surroundings a living thing grows up in decide how much of it happens.

Variation is what lets a species survive change, and it is what people put to work in selective breeding.

Activity 1

One statement below does NOT belong with the others about variation within a species. Circle it and explain why it does not belong.

- A. No two members of a species are identical.
- B. A trait is one feature at a time.
- C. Inherited traits come from parents through genes.
- D. The skeleton gives the body its basic shape and structure.

Why does it not belong?

Activity 2

Because / But / So — complete each sentence three different ways.

No two members of a species are identical because

No two members of a species are identical but

No two members of a species are identical so

Activity 3

Start with the kernel sentence. Use the prompts to expand it into a more detailed sentence.

Kernel sentence: A trait is one feature at a time.

How?

Why?

Write your expanded sentence:

Activity 4

Write one of each type of sentence about variation within a species.

Statement (Declarative):

Question (Interrogative):

Exclamation (Exclamatory):

Command (Imperative):

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