

Name: _____

Traits in Parents and Offspring

A mammalogist studies mammals and how they grow. Mammals are animals like giraffes, bears, dogs, and even whales. Some mammalogists learn about parent mammals and their offspring. Offspring are the children of a parent.

Because they are related, parents and offspring share characteristics. These characteristics are called traits. For example, this polar bear parent and offspring both have white fur.



However, parent and offspring also have different traits. Take a look at these giraffes. The parent and offspring both have long necks and two ears. However, the parent has a much larger body than the offspring.



Look at this parent dog and its offspring. Think about how they are similar and different!



Today, you will imagine you are a mammalogist who just found a new type of mammal. These mammals have never been seen before! It is your job to draw what the parent and its offspring will look like. Remember, no one has seen these mammals before so they can look however you want them to look! They might have purple dots on their fur or two tails!

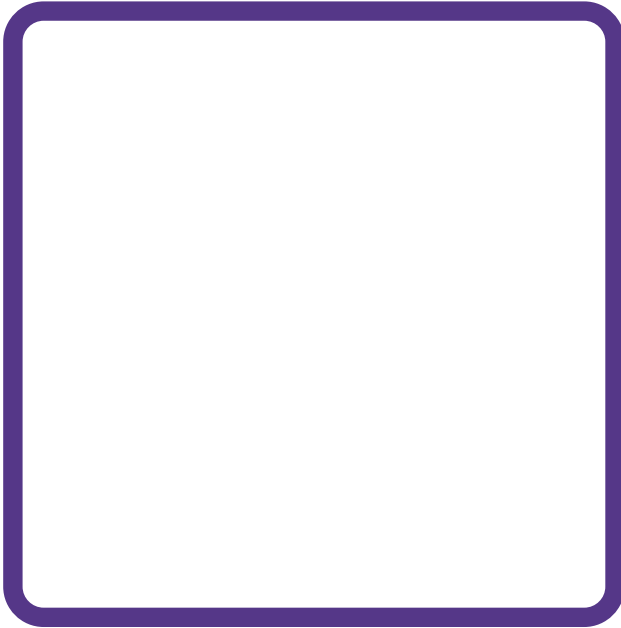
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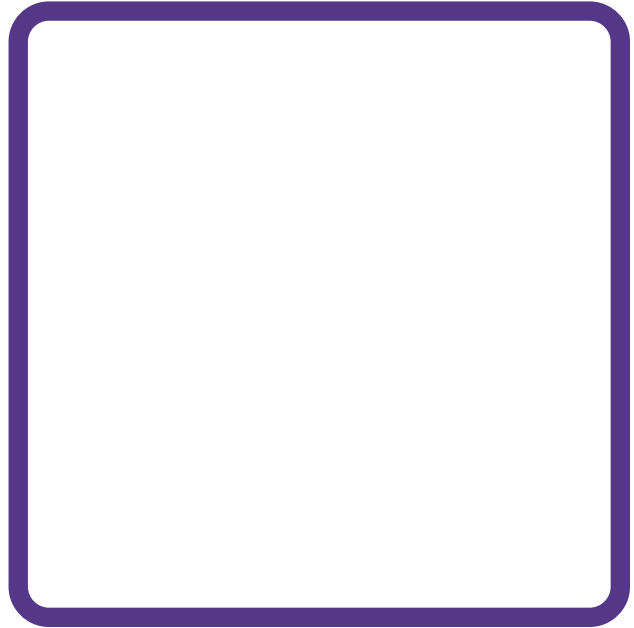
Step 1: Draw a picture

Draw a picture of what the parent mammal looks like and then what the offspring looks like. Your parent and offspring should have at least two ways they are similar and two ways they are different.

Picture of Parent



Picture of Offspring



Step 2: Write Similarities and Differences

Write two ways that the parent and offspring are similar and two ways they are different.

Ways they are similar:

Ways they are different:
