



South Carolina Academic/Career Development Integration Activity (DRAFT)

Title	Inherited or Acquired? (S-2)	
Subject	Science	Grade Level(s) 7

SC Content Standard – Cells and Heredity – Grade 7. Standard 7-2. The student will demonstrate an understanding of the structure and function of cells, cellular reproduction, and heredity. (Life Science).

7-2.7. Distinguish between inherited traits and those acquired from environmental factors.

National Career Development Guidelines Goal/Indicator

Personal Social Development GOAL PS1. Develop understanding of yourself to build and maintain a positive self-concept.

Indicator PS1. K2. Identify your abilities, strengths, skills, and talents.

Indicator PS1. K3. Identify your positive personal characteristics (e.g., honesty, dependability, responsibility, integrity, and loyalty).

Career Development Objectives

1. Students will understand the difference between inherited and acquired traits.
2. Students will identify several acquired traits (strengths and positive personal qualities).
3. Students will understand that many of their acquired traits can be help them achieve success in school and work.

Assessment

1. Students will write a short explanation of the difference between inherited and acquired traits.
2. Students will identify 3 of their inherited traits and 3 of their acquired traits.
3. Students will complete the worksheet *My Traits – Inherited and Acquired*.

Preparation

- Prior Learning—Instruction on the topic of heredity
- Handouts/Worksheets—*Skills for a Lifetime* handout, *My Traits – Inherited and Acquired* worksheet
- Resources/Materials—writing materials, textbook
- Time Required—1 class period

Procedures

Part One

- This activity expands students' awareness of the difference between inherited and acquired traits. Students will explore some of their acquired traits.
- Open discussion with how each of us is unique. We have traits that we inherited from our parents and traits that we acquired.
- Engage students in a discussion of inherited and acquired traits. Ask students to give examples of some inherited traits and some examples of acquired traits. Are all acquired traits positive? What are some negative acquired traits? Do we have control over our inherited traits? Do we have control over our acquired traits?
- Give students a copy of the *My Traits – Inherited and Acquired* worksheet and review it with them.
- Have students complete the worksheet.

Part Two—Career Development Connections

- Begin by having students share some of their positive personal traits. Write them on the board.
- Point out that these qualities and traits are what make us successful in our personal lives and relationships with others. They are keys to success in school and work.
- Use the *Skills for a Lifetime* handout to introduce students to skills and qualities employers look for in all workers.
- Have students compare the traits they identified with those on the handout. What skills for a lifetime do they already possess? What skills and personal qualities might they need to work on or further develop?
- Brainstorm some steps students could take to further develop some of their positive acquired traits. Encourage students to take control and become the best they can be!

Crosswalks

SC Career Guidance Standard/Competency

Learning to Work Standard 1. Students will understand the relationship among personal qualities, education, training and the world of work.

Competency 1.4. Explain the relationship between personal qualities, school success, life style and career choices.

Key Employability Skills

Thinking Skills—Reasoning

Thinking Skills—Creative thinking

Self-Esteem—Believes in own self-worth and maintains a positive view of self

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Inherited and Acquired Traits

Name_____

Date_____

Part 1

Directions: Write a short explanation (in the space below) of the difference between inherited and acquired traits.

Part 2

Directions: Identify 3 inherited traits and 3 acquired traits. In "The Way I See It" column, write if you think the trait is a plus, a minus, or a neutral thing for you. In the "I Wish" column write how you might want to change the trait, or improve it, or get rid of it, or whatever. Complete the chart.

My Traits - How I See Myself

Inherited Trait	The Way I See It	I Wish....
1.		
2.		
3.		
Acquired Trait	The Way I See It	I Wish....
1.		
2.		
3.		

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