### From Micro to Macro Genetics

### What we know...

- Physical characteristics (what you look like) are determined by genes that are inherited from parents
- There are two forms of genes (alleles) for every characteristic (one from mom, one from dad)

- Mutations can create favorable, unfavorable or no change at all. <u>Everyone</u> has them!
  - More on mutations next unit

### How do we know this?

### ...How do we know that genetic information is passed through our chromosomes/ genes?



## Gregor Mendel

#### **Gregor Mendel**

- Father of "Mendelian Genetics"
- Made discoveries in the 3-step experiment (which you may have learned about last year)



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What do you think "purebred" plants are? What kind of offspring do you think they will always produce?

### **Step 1: Purebred Pea Plants**

 Lets start by thinking of only one trait

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- He started with:
  - pure-bred pea plants (P1parental generation)
  - These will reproduce and always have offspring that are identical to the original



# GRIN E

What color flower do you think the offspring will be  $F_1$  generation will be? (F1 is created by breeding purebred purple with purebred white) Why?

### **Step 2: Cross Fertilization**

(think about bag labeled F1)

#### **Cross-fertilized two different Pea varieties** (Fl generation)

- All offspring (Hybrids) look like one parent. There is no mixing of colors.
  - Ex: green pea crossed with a yellow pea: results in all yellow peas
  - Ex: purple flowers with white flowers: results in all purple flowers



### **Step 3: Hybrid Self Fertilization**

Mendel Selffertilized the Fl plants to create the F2 generation () 3:1 ratio of

each parent



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How can you explain the re-occurrence of the parental color when it had "disappeared" before?



### What Does The outcome of 3:1 Mean for inheritance?

• Mendel thought: "There must be some factor that controls the genes"...genes

- Alleles: different forms of genes (ex: flower color can be purple or white)
- Mendel's idea:
  - The Principle of Dominance: some factors are dominant while others are recessive

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### Summarize the Principle of Dominance

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We all have 2 alleles for each gene/trait. One dominant and one recessive gene.

Where do they come from?

So, what determines which allele you get from each parent?

The principle of segregation: for any particular trait, the pair of alleles of each parent separate and only one allele passes from each parent on to an offspring.



### The Principle of Segregation

Each parent plant has 2 alleles for each trait (one from mom, one from dad)

Mendel proposed that the 2 alleles separate during gamete formation and are paired up again during fertilization

Can be explained using the Punnett squares you have used before

	А	а
а	Aa	аа
а	Aa	aa

What if you look at more than one allele at a time?

For example, pea color AND pea shape.

If the parents are smooth and yellow (SSYY) and wrinkly and green (ssyy) create a Punnett square to determine all possible characteristics.

### The Experiment...

- The two-factor cross: parental (P) generation has 2 traits
- 2. Gametes (F<sub>1</sub> generation) have segregated alleles
- Gametes fuse to produce offspring with specific traits (F<sub>2</sub> generation)



#### The Results...

The 9:3:3:1 ratio made Mendel to propose the Law of Independent Assortment

In a *dihybrid cross*, the inheritance of one trait does not influence the inheritance of another trait



### The Principle of Independent Assortment

During gamete formation different pairs of alleles (different traits) are passed to offspring independently of each other.

MEANING: that just because the pea is green does not mean the pea has to be smooth.

The result is that new combinations of genes present in neither parent are possible.



**Gregor Mendel** 

Mendel discovered by looking at only PHENOTYPE, without knowing about genes...

We know more know because of mitosis and meiosis



### Reviewing Mitosis

- This occurs in order to replicate all our body cells
- The process starts with one cell with 46 chromosomes
- The process results in two identical cells

In order to understand genetics and inheritance, you need to understand how gametes (sex cells-sperm and egg) are created Meiosis has **two** parts: Meiosis I and Meiosis II Meiosis I:

DNA has been replicated. These homologous chromosomes line up in pairs

When the cell divides, each cell gets one chromosome set. Two cells with half the number of chromosomes as the original cell are created

#### **Meiosis II:**

There is  $\operatorname{NO}$  DNA replication before this round of cell division

The chromosomes line up like they did in mitosis

The chromosomes are pulled apart and each of the 4 resulting haploid cells have half the number of chromosomes as the original cell



### **Purpose of Meiosis**

- In order for reproduction to occur, each offspring must receive one set of alleles from mom and one from dad.
- Meiosis creates gametes which carry this information
- Meiosis is the process of reduction division where the diploid cell divides twice to create 4 haploid cells that carry half of the parents genetic information.
- Human cells start with 46 chromosomes and end up with 23

### Summary of Mendel's Work

- The factors that control heredity are individual units known as genes. In organisms that reproduce sexually, genes are inherited from each parent
- In cases in which two or more forms of the gene for a single trait exist, some forms of the gene may be dominant and others may be recessive
- The two forms of each gene are segregated during the formation of reproductive cells
- The genes for different traits may assort independently of one another