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Hardy-Weinberg Equilibrium Gizmo

Prior Knowledge Questions (Do these BEFORE using the Gizmo.)

1. A bird's feather color is controlled by two **alleles**, D (dark feathers) and d (lighter feathers). Suppose two Dd birds mate. What percentages of DD, Dd, and dd offspring would you predict? Use the **Punnett square** at right to help determine your answer.

DD Dd dd

2. In this situation, what ratio of heterozygous (Dd) to homozygous (DD and dd) offspring

would you expect to find?

Gizmo Warm-up

Many factors—immigration, natural selection, hunting, etc—can influence the composition of a population. To determine if one of these factors is affecting a population, it is useful to know what a population looks like when none of these factors is present.



In 1908, Godfrey Hardy and Wilhelm Weinberg independently discovered the laws that govern such populations. These laws can be explored in the Hardy-Weinberg Equilibrium Gizmo™.

1. The parrots you see represent a population of 500 parrots. For these parrots, the D allele is **incompletely dominant** over *d*, which means that *Dd* parrots are intermediate between *DD* and *dd* parrots. In the Gizmo, select the TABLE tab. How many parrots of each genotype are in the initial population?

DD_____ Dd_____ dd_____

- 2. Return to the DESCRIPTION tab. Click **Begin**, and then click **Breed**. What happens?
- 3. Click **Hatch**, and look on the TABLE tab. What are the parrot populations now?

DD_____ Dd_____ dd_____



Activity A:	Get the Gizmo ready:	V D
Alleles and genotypes	 On the DESCRIPTION tab, click Reset. Check that DD is 50% and dd is 30%. 	121

Question: How will the proportion of genotypes and alleles change over time when mating is random and no natural selection is occurring?

1. How do you expect the proportions of D and d alleles to change over time?

2. Run a generation in the Gizmo. After clicking **Hatch**, fill in the allele and genotype percentages for generation 1. Repeat this process for 5 generations.

	Initial values	Initial				
		1	2	3	4	5
% <i>D</i> alleles	60					
% <i>d</i> alleles	40					
% of DD genotype	50					
% of <i>Dd</i> genotype	20					
% of <i>dd</i> genotype	30					

3. What patterns do you see in your data? _____

4. Select the ALLELE GRAPH tab. What does this graph show? _____

5. Select the GENOTYPE GRAPH tab. What does this graph show? _____

Activity A (continued from previous page)

6. On the DESCRIPTION tab, click **Reset**. Set **DD** and **dd** to any values you like. Fill in the initial values in the table below, and then run the Gizmo for five generations. Record the allele and genotype percentages for each generation in the table below.

	Initial values	Generation				
		1	2	3	4	5
% <i>D</i> alleles						
% <i>d</i> alleles						
% of <i>DD</i> genotype						
% of <i>Dd</i> genotype						
% of <i>dd</i> genotype						

7. Do the patterns you noticed in the first experiment appear in the second? Explain.

- 8. The **Hardy-Weinberg principle** states that the proportions of alleles and genotypes in a population will remain stable as long as the following criteria are satisfied:
 - Mating is random.
 - There is no immigration or emigration.
 - No natural or artificial selection is occurring.
 - There is no mutation.
 - The population is relatively large.

How well does the Hardy-Weinberg principle describe this population of parrots?

Would you say that this parrot population is evolving? Explain.

Activity B:	Get the Gizmo ready:			Parent pairs Offsp		
	Click Reset.	-		1	0	
Genotype ratios	• Set DD to 30% and dd to 70%.	Ő		0	4	

Question: How do genotype percentages relate to allele percentages?

- 1. You can use the laws of probability to predict how many *DD*, *Dd*, and *dd* offspring will result from this parent population.
 - A. What is the current percentage of *D* alleles in the population?
 - B. What is the current percentage of *d* alleles in the population? _____
 - C. What is the probability of inheriting a D allele from a parent? (Hint: Convert the

percentage of *D* alleles to a decimal.) _____ Call this value *p*.

- D. What is the probability of inheriting a *d* allele? _____ Call this value *q*.
- 2. If a trait is determined by two alleles, the sum of *p* and *q* is 1. Why is this true?

3. Fill in the current *p* and *q* values next to the *D* and *d* alleles around the Punnett square at right. Then calculate the probability of each offspring genotype. Write these values into the individual squares.

For example, the upper left box in the square represents the probability of a *DD* offspring. The probability of inheriting a *D* allele from each parent is *p*, so the probability of *DD* is p^2 .



What is the sum of the probabilities in the four squares? ____

4. Now determine an algebraic expression for the probability of each genotype in terms of *p* (the probability of inheriting *D*) and *q* (the probability of inheriting *d*). Use the Punnett square above as a guide.

A. In terms of *p* and *q*, what is the probability of a *DD* offspring? _____

- B. In terms of *p* and *q*, what is the probability of a *dd* offspring? _____
- C. In terms of *p* and *q*, what is the probability of a *Dd* offspring? ______