

PROBABILITY

Mendel realized that the principles of probability could be used to explain results of genetic crosses.



- **Probability**: the likelihood that a particular event will occur.
 - Flipping a coin: heads up or tails up. (Equal probability).
 - 50% chance it will be heads. 50% chance it will be tails.

CALCULATING PROBABILITY

- If you flip a coin 3 times, what is the chance it will land heads up all three times?
- Multiply the probability of each flip.

$$\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{8}$$

1st flip 2nd flip 3rd flip

Probability and Genetic Variation

- Each time your parents “flip a coin” and have a baby, they have a certain probability of passing on a trait.
- Since each gene is passed down independently, this leads to genetic variation in two offspring of the same parents.
- Don't forget about crossing over! This increases genetic variation amongst offspring as well!



Crossing Over:
Happens during
Meiosis

Probability and Genetic Variation

- What are the odds a set of parents will have 4 girls in a row?
- What are the odds a set of parents who already have 4 boys, will have another boy the next time?

PUNNETT SQUARES

- Take the alleles of the parent plants (TT and tt) and put them on the sides of the Punnett Square.
- Separate the gametes into the boxes.
- What do the F1 plants look like? Tall or short?

	t	t
T	Tt	Tt
T	Tt	Tt

PUNNETT SQUARE PRACTICE

Two F₁ plants are crossbred (**Gg x Gg**).
Make a punnett square showing their
offspring.

Two parental plants are crossbred
(**RR x rr**). Show what the F₁
generation looks like.

F₁ CROSS PUNNETT SQUARE ANALYSIS

What are the genotypes for two tall F₁ plants?

Complete a Punnett Square to cross the two F₁ plants:

How many of the 4 F₂ offspring will be tall?

What three genotypes are present?

What is the ratio of tall to short offspring?

What is the ratio of the genotypes?

PUNNETT SQUARE ANALYSIS

**Long (L) is dominant over short (l).
Cross a Heterozygous parent with a
short parent.**

What are the parents genotypes?

What are the parents phenotypes?

What is the phenotypic ratio of the offspring?

What is the genotypic ratio of the offspring?

TEST CROSS

If I catch a moth in the wild, how could I figure out what its Genotype is?

