Punnett Squares & Patterns of Inheritance

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Prepare for your investigation

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

Research question

How accurately do Punnett squares predict genotype and phenotype frequencies in simulated offspring?

Learning goal: use the virtual model to gather evidence, explain punnett squares & patterns of inheritance and communicate a supported conclusion.

Materials: WorksheetGalaxy virtual laboratory, this assignment, calculator or spreadsheet if needed. Virtual observations only; do not recreate hazardous procedures or perform physical fitness tests without teacher approval.

1. Define two relevant scientific terms from the Background Information tab. (K/U)

2. Write a prediction or hypothesis with a scientific reason. (K/U, T/I)

3. Identify the variable or feature compared, the measured outcome and constants or consistent observation criteria. (T/I)

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Perform the virtual laboratory

Open the corresponding virtual lab and read Background Information. Follow the investigation instructions below. Record authentic simulated results; do not invent data.

• Predict outcomes for Aa × Aa and record a trial of 20 offspring.

• Repeat Aa × Aa with 200 offspring and compare the observed dominant phenotype percentage with the theoretical 75%.

• Run AaBb × AaBb with 200 offspring. Compare observed phenotype classes with the expected 9:3:3:1 ratio.

• Choose another parental cross and explain its predicted offspring genotypes.

• Complete the report with calculations, interpretation, limitations, and a conclusion.

Record each completed observation using the simulator’s record control when available. Use Data & Graphs to review results. Export CSV if available; attach additional rows or screenshots when needed.

Record the exact settings and any changes to the method.

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Observations & results

Enter the actual results. Keep trial IDs consistent between continued tables. Attach the full exported data or extra sheets when the procedure requires more rows. Include units as displayed.

Data table 1

Trial / item	Cross	Offspring	Observed phenotype counts	Expected phenotype probabilities

Qualitative observations / sample calculation (show units where applicable)

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Analysis, conclusion & assessment

4. Present a labelled graph of a measured relationship, or an annotated diagram / comparison chart for qualitative investigations. Attach it separately. Explain the pattern using recorded evidence. (C, T/I)

5. Compare two contrasting observations from your investigation of Punnett Squares & Patterns of Inheritance. Explain the difference using the background information. (K/U, A)

6. Use a specific recorded result to answer the research question. Explain the scientific reasoning behind it. (K/U, A)

Conclusion and evaluation: answer the research question, revisit the prediction using evidence, identify a model limitation and propose an improvement. (T/I, A)

Submit this assignment plus your completed Lab Report (printed or saved as PDF from the lab) and any supporting data/figures.

K/U: accurate concepts /10	T/I: method, data, reasoning /12	C: clear tables, units, report /8	A: explanation, conclusion, transfer /10

Total: /40