

# Martian Genetics



Congratulations! You and your partner are about to become the proud parents of a bouncing baby Martian!

## PROCEDURES

1. Choose one parent to pick up the maternal chromosomes and one parent to pick up the paternal chromosomes.
2. You each need 5 popsicle sticks, one of each color of autosome, and the appropriate sex chromosome. The letters on both sides of the stick represent the parental genotype.
3. For each color autosome, each parent will flip their chromosome like flipping a coin. The side that lands facing up represents the chromosome that is passed on to the baby in the sperm or the egg cell.
4. Record your alleles on the data sheet.
5. Use the decoding chart and your knowledge of inheritance patterns to determine the trait each pair of alleles codes for and record on the data sheet. Remember, *CAPITAL* letters represent dominant alleles and lower case letters indicate recessive alleles.
6. Cut out or trace the traits for your baby and color them to create a portrait for your family album.