

Cats and Kittens

Procedure

- Collaborate** Work with a partner. Record your observations in the chart below.

Parent Cat	Traits of Parent Cat	Kitten	Traits of Kitten	Parent and Offspring
A		D		Cat A and Kitten ____
B		E		Cat B and Kitten ____
C		F		Cat C and Kitten ____

- Look at the six cat photo cards. Photo cards *A*, *B*, and *C* each show a mother cat. Photo cards *D*, *E*, and *F* each show a kitten.
- Observe** Look at the traits, or features, of the mother cat on card *A*. In your chart, record the traits you observe. Do the same for the mother cat on card *B* and on card *C*. Compare your list with your partner's list.
- Now look at the pictures of the kittens. Record the traits of the kittens in your chart.
- Infer** Compare the list of traits you recorded for cat *A* with the traits of each kitten. Use the data in your chart to infer which kitten is most likely the offspring of mother cat *A*. Record your inference in your chart.
- Infer** Repeat step 5 for cards *B* and *C*.

Conclusion

Write the answers to the questions below.

1. **Hypothesize** What can you hypothesize about where the kittens got their traits? What can you hypothesize about where the kittens got their traits?

2. **Hypothesize** If a kitten has traits that are different from its mother cat, where is it likely that these traits come from?

Investigate More!

Research Find pictures of adult animals with offspring. Observe similarities and differences between the parents and their offspring. Write a paragraph about your findings.

