Cats and Kittens

Procedure

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parent Cat</th>
<th>Traits of Parent Cat</th>
<th>Kitten</th>
<th>Traits of Kitten</th>
<th>Parent and Offspring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cat A and Kitten ___</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td></td>
<td>E</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cat B and Kitten ___</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td></td>
<td>F</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cat C and Kitten ___</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. Now look at the pictures of the kittens. Record the traits of the kittens in your chart.

5. 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.

6. 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?

   __________________________________________________________

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**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.