

3.16 Gene Genie: Nature's Power Menu- Design Your Own Superhero



Directions: Imagine you're at a high-tech lab called *GeneGenie*, where the menu isn't food—it's animal powers you can mix into human DNA to design your own superhero.

Look at your menu card below, then decide what 2-3 powers you would mix together if you could use gene editing to create your own superhuman. Then draw a picture of your new superhero, give it a name, and provide a description of its powers.

For each trait from another animal you choose, decide:










1. **Dominant or Recessive:** Decide if that trait will be dominant or recessive, then label any combination of alleles that could lead to that trait.
2. **Inherited:** Decide if that power can be inherited or not.
3. **Accessible:** If the power is accessible to all or only those who can afford it.

For example, super sight might be dominant. And the alleles might be: SS or Ss, with S being dominant.

Here's another example: let's say you choose muscle. And having super muscles is recessive. You might label your hero - mm for recessive muscle.

When you are done, answer the reflection questions below:

Nature's Menu

 Animal	 Power	 Why It's Cool	Gene
 Cheetah	Super Speed	Run up to 70 mph in short bursts. Zoom past everyone!	S
 Bombardier Beetle	Chemical Spray Defense	Spray hot, toxic liquid when threatened—built-in defense system!	C
 Blue Whale	Super Lungs	Hold your breath for over an hour—perfect for deep dives.	L
 Arctic Fox	Cold Resistance	Survive freezing temps with special metabolism and fur.	R
 Star-Nosed Mole	Super Touch	Detect tiny movements in complete darkness.	T
 Dung Beetle	Super Strength	Lift over 1,000x your own weight—hello, muscle power!	S
 Tardigrade	Extreme Survival	Live through space, boiling water, and freezing cold. Almost unkillable!	E
 Mantis Shrimp	Super Punch	Strike so fast it boils water and breaks glass.	P
 Axolotl	Regeneration	Regrow arms, spinal cords, and even parts of the brain.	R
 Electric Eel	Electric Shock	Zap enemies with powerful jolts. Instant defense!	E
 Bioluminescent Jellyfish	Glow in the Dark	Shine bright in the dark like a living nightlight.	G
 Saharan Silver Ant	Heat Resistance	Survive burning hot deserts (up to 140°F)!	H
 Archerfish	Precision Water Jets	Shoot streams of water to knock flying bugs out of the air!	W
 Octopus	Shapeshifting	Change your shape, color, and texture to blend in—or trick others!	S

Meet: _____