Trimester 2 Conference Questions Life Science

1. Discuss Unit 3: **Heredity**. Share what you learned about **the reproduction of living things**. This unit discussed content from Standard 3.3: *Communicate the differences in the reproductive processes using the principles of genetics*. Show off your amazing notebook full of wonderful work from this unit!

2. Choose two successful assignments from this past trimester (including all cells and organelle work). Discuss **why** you were successful on these assignments.

3. Choose two items that were not your best work. Discuss what you plan to do in the future **to** improve.

4. Look on page 86 for the midterm notebook grade sheet and discuss your organization so far this year in science.

5. On the back of this sheet are a few ethical questions regarding genetics and genetic research. We live in interesting times and the future in regards to genetics is ever changing. Please take a moment to discuss your thoughts about the questions with your student. Include comments of the discussion if you wish.

6. We set goals on the last conference sheet in November. Review your goals and discuss how well you did at meeting (or NOT meeting) them. They are in your notebook page 50.

7. When we set goals, we have a better idea of what we have accomplished as well as what we still want to do. Please set a work ethic goal for Timeliness, Citizenship/Teamwork, or Quality of Work (you may want to use the work ethic rubric on Reference page 5 if needed for ideas for your goal). Make sure to include **HOW** you plan to accomplish this goal. We will check how well you have met your goal during the next conference sheet.

MY WORK ETHIC GOAL and PLAN OF ACTION IS:

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Take this opportunity to log on to Powerschool (http://www.sd5.k12.mt.us/Page/1900) to check for additional information about your students' work in science as well as all other subjects at KMS. Remember our target is a "3" for proficient work.

You may also check out my website at www.kmssciencehunt.weebly.com to learn more of what we have been doing in class as well as find resource information. I update the RAMBLINGS TAB daily.

Sign below when your conference is done. Take the time to learn about your student's work since we will NOT be meeting for a spring conference time. BOTH conferencee AND student need to sign. Due date for this worksheet is **FRIDAY, February 28th.**

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Conferencee's signature

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Student's name (print please)

GENETIC TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. Should we save DNA from all endangered species and clone them back into existence again if they become extinct (like Jurassic Park)? Why/why not?

2. Should foods that are genetically engineered be labeled so you know they were? Why/why not? Would you buy them anyway?

3. If the technology allowed parents to select specific traits for a developing fetus (like tallness, athleticism, sex of child, etc.) would you use this technology to create the "perfect" child? Why/why not?

4. There is currently a law banning the cloning of humans. Do you agree with this law or do you think the law should change to allow human cloning? Why/why not?

5. Think of one of your personal traits. Is this trait from "nature" or inherited in your genes, or is this trait from "nurture" or what you have experienced or learned. Explain your trait, how you got it, and what you think about "nature vs. nurture."

6. Suppose you had a mole removed and scientists used the mole for research. What if they discovered that you had a unique gene combination that prevented skin cancer and they became rich off a cancer-prevention drug they made with it? Is that okay, or should you get $$$, too?

7. We have the technology to identify certain genes for diseases like Cystic Fibrosis (see pp. 117-121 to review genetic diseases) and breast cancer, which are costly to treat and may even be fatal. If a person was a carrier of a gene for one of these diseases, should they be prevented by law from reproducing? Why/why not?

8. DNA is used for identifying genetic diseases as well as identification in many crimes (see pp. 130-131). Should all people be required to submit DNA for physicians, law enforcement, and the government to use? Why/why not? Should anyone have open access to your DNA if they want it?