Name: _____

Eye Color: The Magic of Genetics

Have you ever wondered why some people have blue eyes, while others have brown or green eyes? Well, the secret lies in something called **genetics**. Genetics is like a special code that decides how we look, including our eye color. Let's explore how eye color is determined and the role our genes play in this fascinating process.

Genes are like tiny instructions inside our bodies that determine many things about us. They tell our body how to grow, what color hair we have, and even what color our eyes will be. These genes come from our parents, and we inherit them when we are born. Isn't that amazing?

When it comes to eye color, there are two main types of genes: dominant and recessive. Dominant genes are stronger, while recessive genes are weaker. There are many eye colors, but the most common ones are blue, brown, and green. Blue eyes are usually the result of having two blue-eyed parents or inheriting two recessive genes. Brown eyes are the most common and are usually the result of inheriting dominant genes. Green eyes are a bit more special and can be the result of inheriting a combination of dominant and recessive genes.

Sometimes, genetics can surprise us! For example, even if both parents have blue eyes, their child might have brown eyes. This happens because genes can be tricky and hide inside our bodies. It's like a secret game that only our genes know how to play.

So, the next time you look into a mirror or gaze into your friend's eyes, remember that your eye color is determined by special instructions called **genes**. It's like a magical code that decides if your eyes will be blue, brown, green, or something in between. Keep exploring and learning, and maybe one day you'll become a scientist who uncovers even more secrets about how genetics work.

Let's see how many students in this class have certain eye colors.

1. Go around the classroom and put a tally mark on the eye color for each student.
    a. If a student has eye color that is slightly different than the colors listed below, pick the closest color.
2. Then create a bar graph based on the eye color data you collected.

Tally Marks	Bar Graph
Amber (yellow/orange): Blue: Brown: Gray: Green: