**Vocabulary: Hardy-Weinberg Equilibrium**

dictionary2

**Vocabulary**

* Allele – one of two or more forms that a gene could take.
* Genotype – the genetic makeup of an organism.
  + The alleles possessed by an organism are represented by symbols. For example, a parrot with dark green feathers might have the genotype *DD*.
* Hardy-Weinberg equation – equation that describes the relative frequency of genotypes in a stable population given the proportions of alleles.
* Hardy-Weinberg principle – principle stating that the proportions of different alleles and genotypes in a population will remain stable as long as certain conditions are met.
  + The Hardy-Weinberg principle applies to large populations in which mating is random, there is no migration, no mutations are occurring, and natural selection is not occurring for the alleles in question.
* Heterozygous – having two alleles that are different.
* Homozygous – having two alleles that are the same.
* Incompletely dominant – a pattern of inheritance in which the recessive allele is not completely masked by the dominant allele.
  + If the alleles are incompletely dominant, a heterozygote will have a phenotype that is intermediate between the phenotypes of the homozygotes.
* Punnett square – a diagram that shows the possible offspring of two parents.
  + Punnett squares allow you to determine the probability of each offspring genotype.