

K4.1.6

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The amount of melanin determines not only skin color but also hair color. People on Earth have about 20 different hair colors, including black, brown, red, yellow, and white. The variation in hair color is due to the different types of melanin in each race.

Worksheet

People with Different Skin Colors

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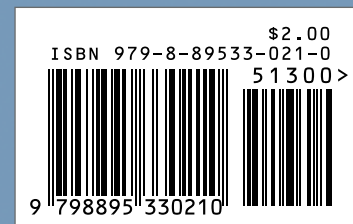
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GM Kids Series

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Check Problem 01

Classifying people by skin color is meaningless. Sometimes, the idea of "race" can cause conflicts. Black, white, and Asian people are all part of the same species, *Homo sapiens*. Why do you think people have different skin colors?



Check Problem 02

Melanin protects the skin from harmful ultraviolet rays. People living in Africa usually have darker skin. The Inuit, who live near the Arctic, also have dark skin. Can you explain why their skin is not light?



Check Problem 03

People's hair can come in many colors, like black, brown, red, and blonde. Hair color depends on two types of melanin. What colors do you think eumelanin and pheomelanin are?



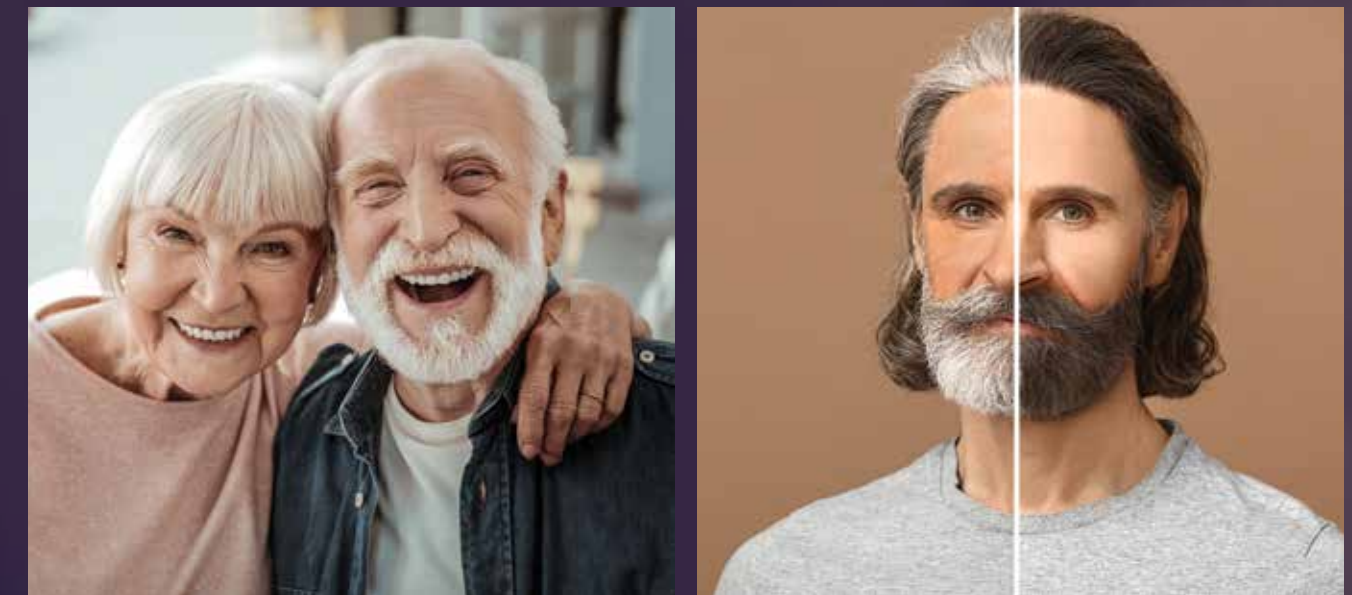
Check Problem 04

When skin color is darker, hair color tends to be darker too. The color of the iris in the eye also tends to be darker. Sometimes, we see people with red hair. What do you think causes some people to have red hair?



Check Problem 05

As we grow older, our skin loses elasticity and can get darker. On the other hand, hair gradually turns white. But we do not dye our hair with white color. Can you explain why we get white hair?



Check Problem 06

The color of our eyes depends on how much melanin is in the iris. If there is a lot of melanin, the eyes are black or brown. If there is less melanin, the eyes can be blue. Which eye color do you think is best for outdoor activities?