

Name: _____ Date: _____

Life Science Notes 13
Human Genetics: Sex Determination

- Determining the sex of an individual by its genes is actually a pretty simple thing to do.
 - After scientists studied fruit flies, which have only 4 chromosomes, they saw that male fruit flies had a special chromosome that female flies did not have.
 - Scientists called this chromosome a Y chromosome, because it was stunted and not as long as a regular X - type chromosome.
 - Every male had an X and a Y chromosome.
 - Every female had two X chromosomes.
- This works the same way in people.
- This means that we can predict the probability that any child born will be male using the Punnett Square below.

	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>
<u>X</u>	<u>XX</u>	<u>XX</u>
<u>Y</u>	<u>Xy</u>	<u>Xy</u>