BEADS: Some of the traits were fun and easy to show (tongue twisting, eye color). Others were less obvious and more difficult to illustrate (hair line). And yet others might have been too subtle for kids to grasp (hand clasp). Can we replace hair line with something else? Here are some alternatives: Gender (or is that jus completely wrong?) Hair curly or straight? (or is that totally confound with color eye). No boy wanted to wear the pink bead (talk about gender stereotype!), so pink gotta go (unless we use gender, of course). Is tongue twisting really a trait or is this something I can learn? In other words, are traits fixed and unchangeable? Some kids looked bummed out of being the only one who couldn’t twist the tongue.

One possible home activity would be to tell the kid to check the four traits against those of (a) her mom, and those of (b) her neighbor, and see which one matches best with hers.