



**Larimer County Genealogical Society**

Research · Learning · Fellowship

# Cousins, Cousins, Everywhere

## How Many Cousins Do YOU Have?

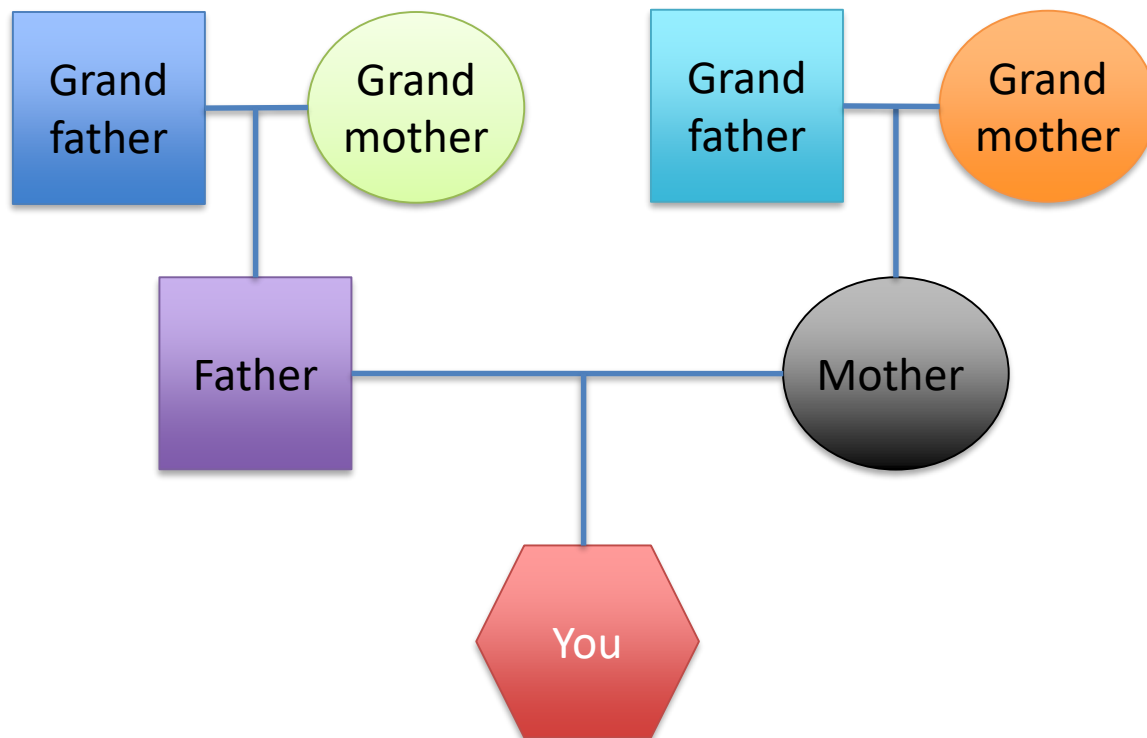
Tammie Gregori

Who Are My Ancestors?  
How many do I have?

Who Are My Cousins?  
How many do I have?

# The number of ancestors is a known maximum number

4 grandparents



2 parents

2 parents  
4 grandparents  
8 great-grandparents  
16 2<sup>nd</sup> great-grandparents  
32 3<sup>rd</sup> great-grandparents  
64 4<sup>th</sup> great-grandparents  
128 5<sup>th</sup> great-grandparents  
256 6<sup>th</sup> great-grandparents  
512 7<sup>th</sup> great-grandparents  
1024 8<sup>th</sup> great-grandparents  
2048 9<sup>th</sup> great-grandparents

# Pedigree Collapse

When an individual ancestor, or couple, has more than one location in your tree.

i.e. - You are descended from an ancestor, or couple, through more than one of his/her/their children.

Your total number of ancestors is less than expected. All of us have pedigree collapse. If we didn't, 30 generations ago we would have approximately 1 billion ancestors, which is more than the number of people alive at that time.

# My Actual with Pedigree Collapse

2	parents	2
4	grandparents	4
8	great-grandparents	8
16	2 <sup>nd</sup> great-grandparents	16
32	3 <sup>rd</sup> great-grandparents	32
<b>64</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> great-grandparents	<b>62</b>
128	5 <sup>th</sup> great-grandparents	<b>124</b>
256	6 <sup>th</sup> great-grandparents	<b>246</b>
512	7 <sup>th</sup> great-grandparents	<b>488</b>
1024	8 <sup>th</sup> great-grandparents	<b>972</b>
2048	9 <sup>th</sup> great-grandparents	<b>1944</b>

So – how many cousins do you  
have?

The number of cousins you have  
depends on **how many children**  
your ancestors had.

# What is a Cousin?

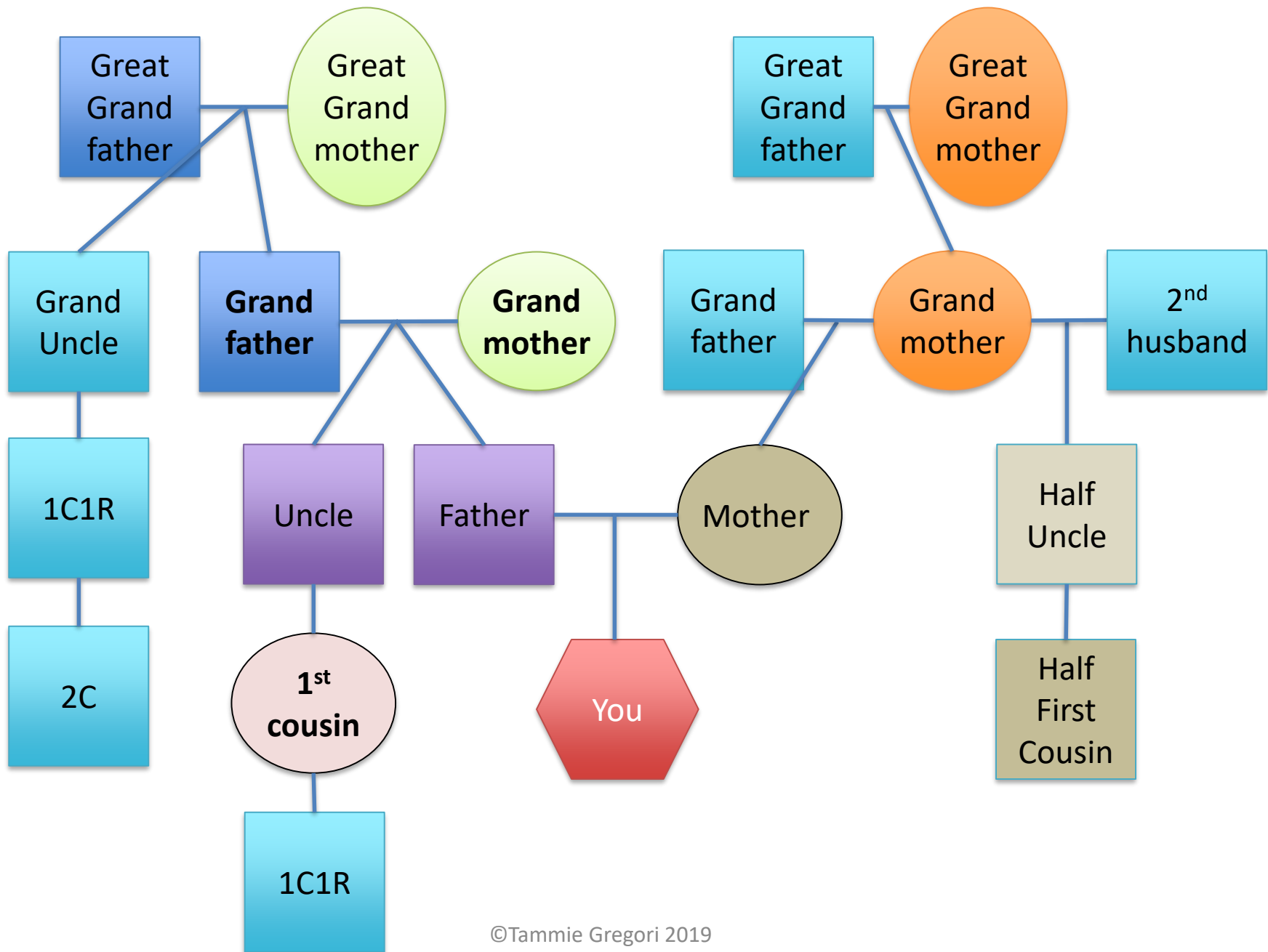
Share a common ancestor couple

1C - First cousins share a set of grandparents  
– they are children of your parent's sibling

2C -Second cousins share a set of great-grandparents – children of your parent's first cousins.

3C - 3<sup>rd</sup> cousins share a set of 2<sup>nd</sup>-great-grandparents.

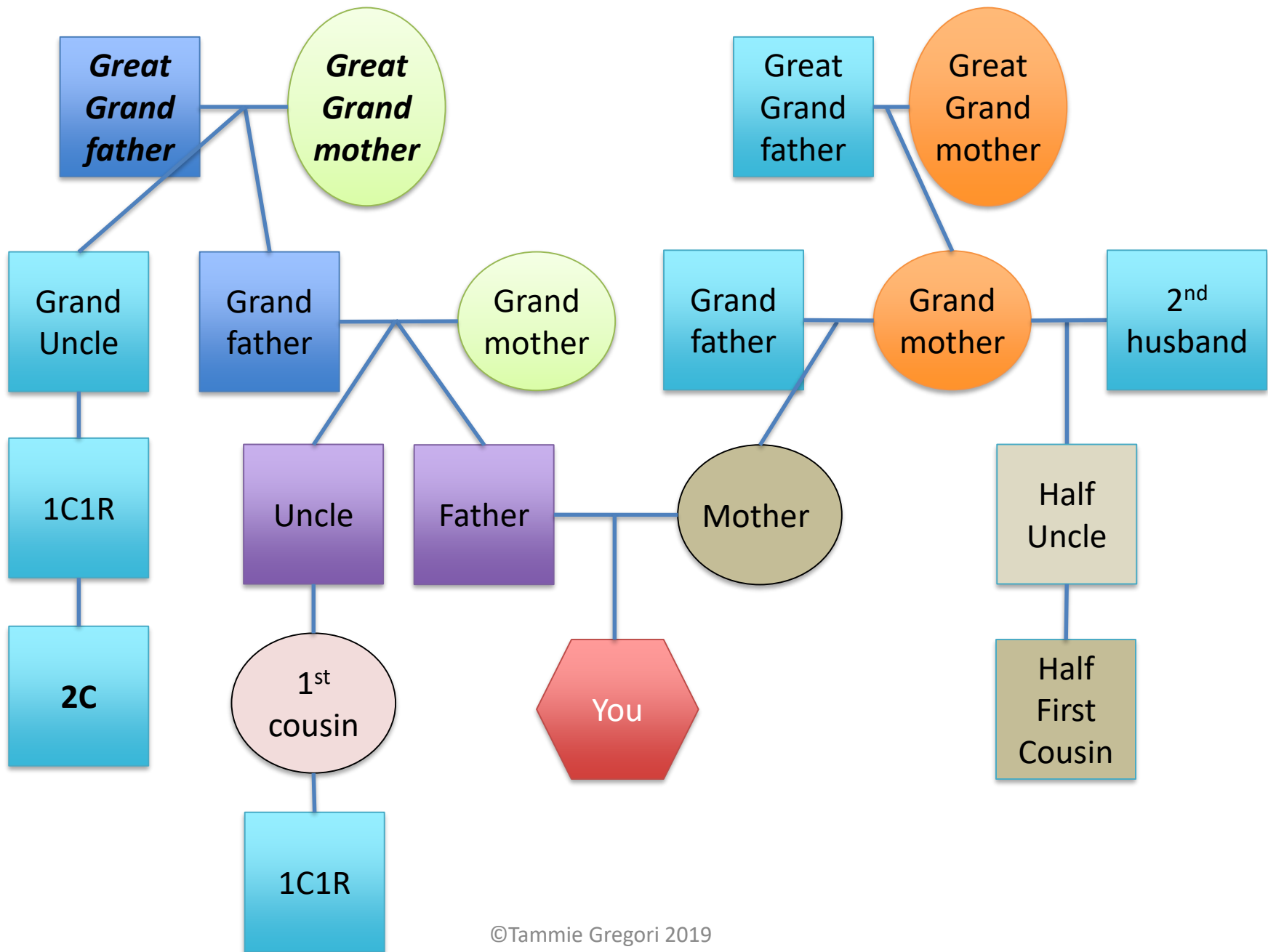




# Second Cousin 2C

Second cousins share a set  
of great-grandparents

– children of your parent's first cousins.

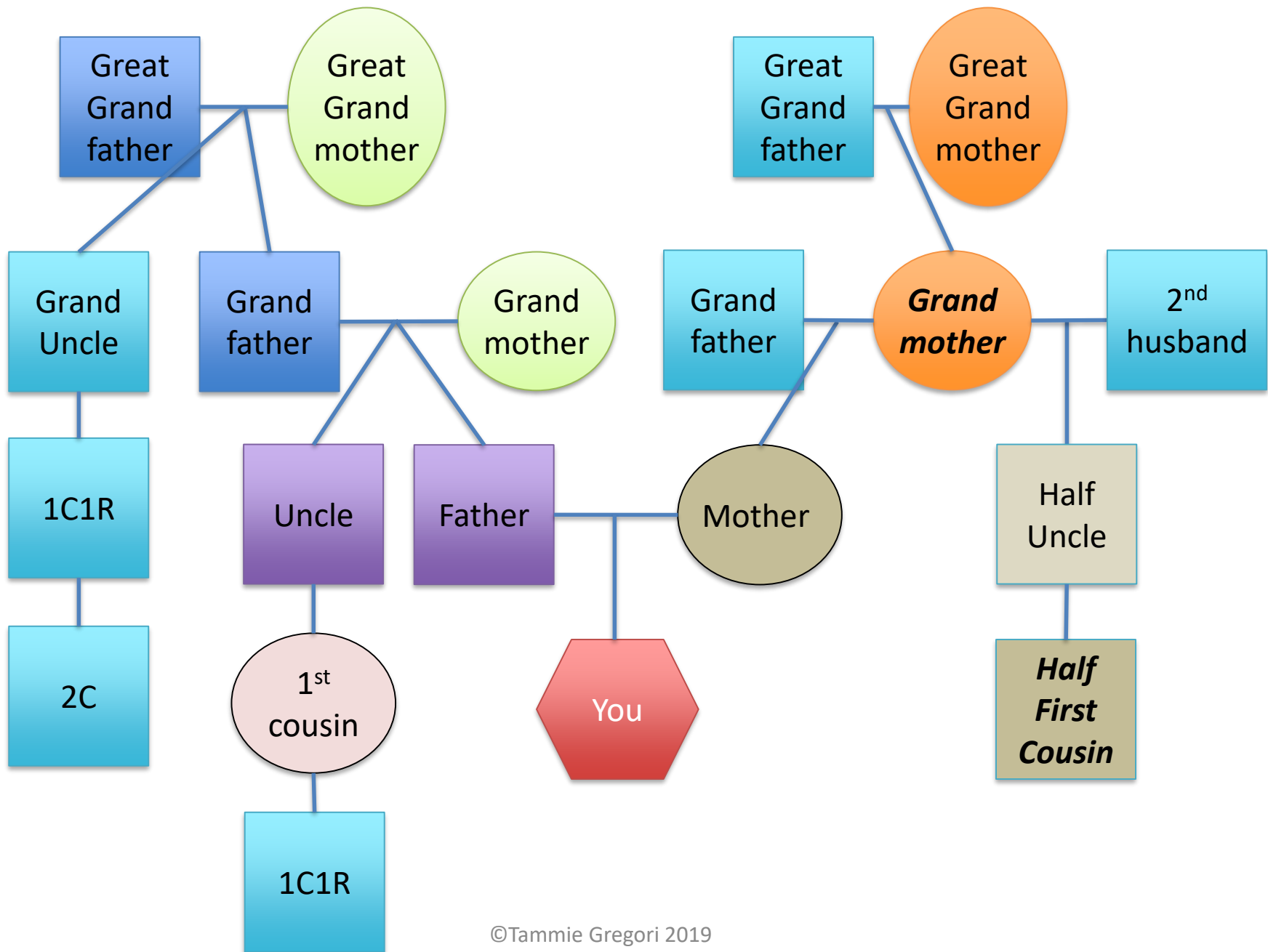


# Half-cousins

Half-first cousins share ONE grandparent

Half-second cousins share  
ONE great-grandparent

Half-third cousins share ONE  
2<sup>nd</sup>-great-grandparent



# Full Cousins and Half-Cousins

Are in the **same generation** as you.

You are the same number of generations down from the common ancestor couple or individual.

Both of you are grandchildren, or great-grandchildren or, 2<sup>nd</sup> great-grandchildren, etc.

# Removed Cousins

Are in a **different generation**.

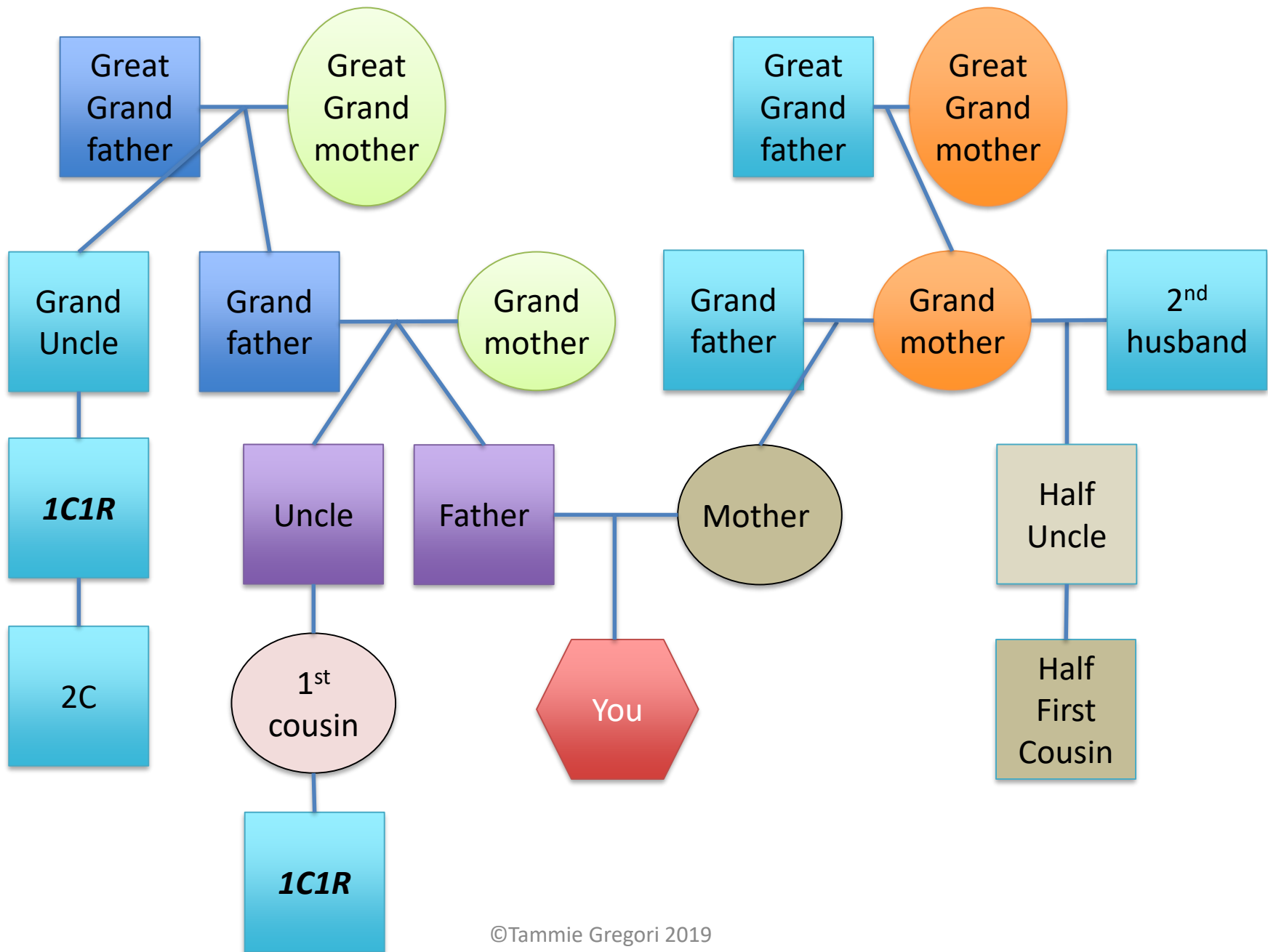
Once removed = one generation removed,  
either older or younger than you.

1C1R, 2C1R, 3C1R,

i.e. the same generation as your parents or  
as your children

Twice removed = two generations different

1C2R, 2C2R, 3C2R,

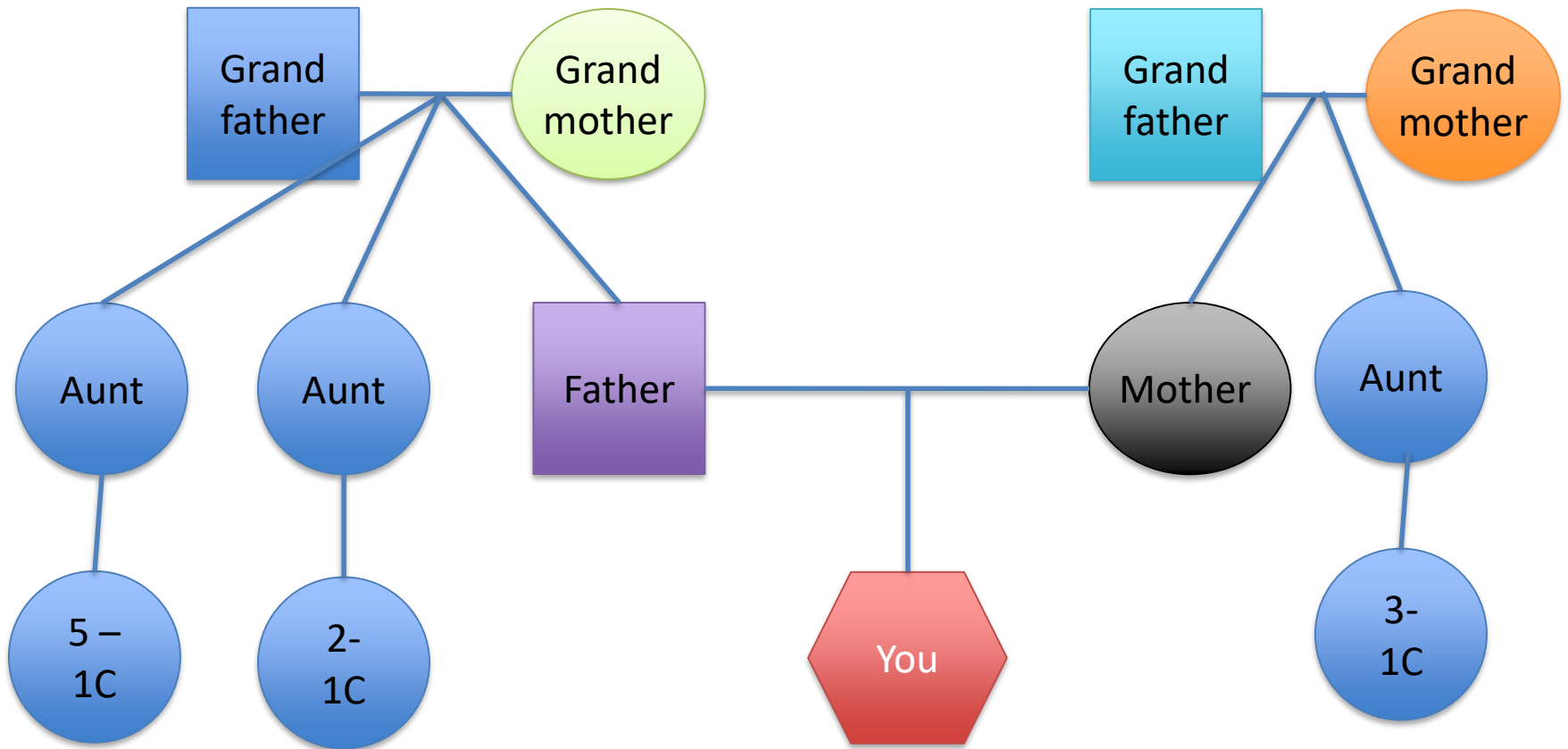




# Descendant Research = Find Your Cousins

To find all your first cousins,  
look for all of the children and  
then the grandchildren  
of each of your  
two grandparent couples.

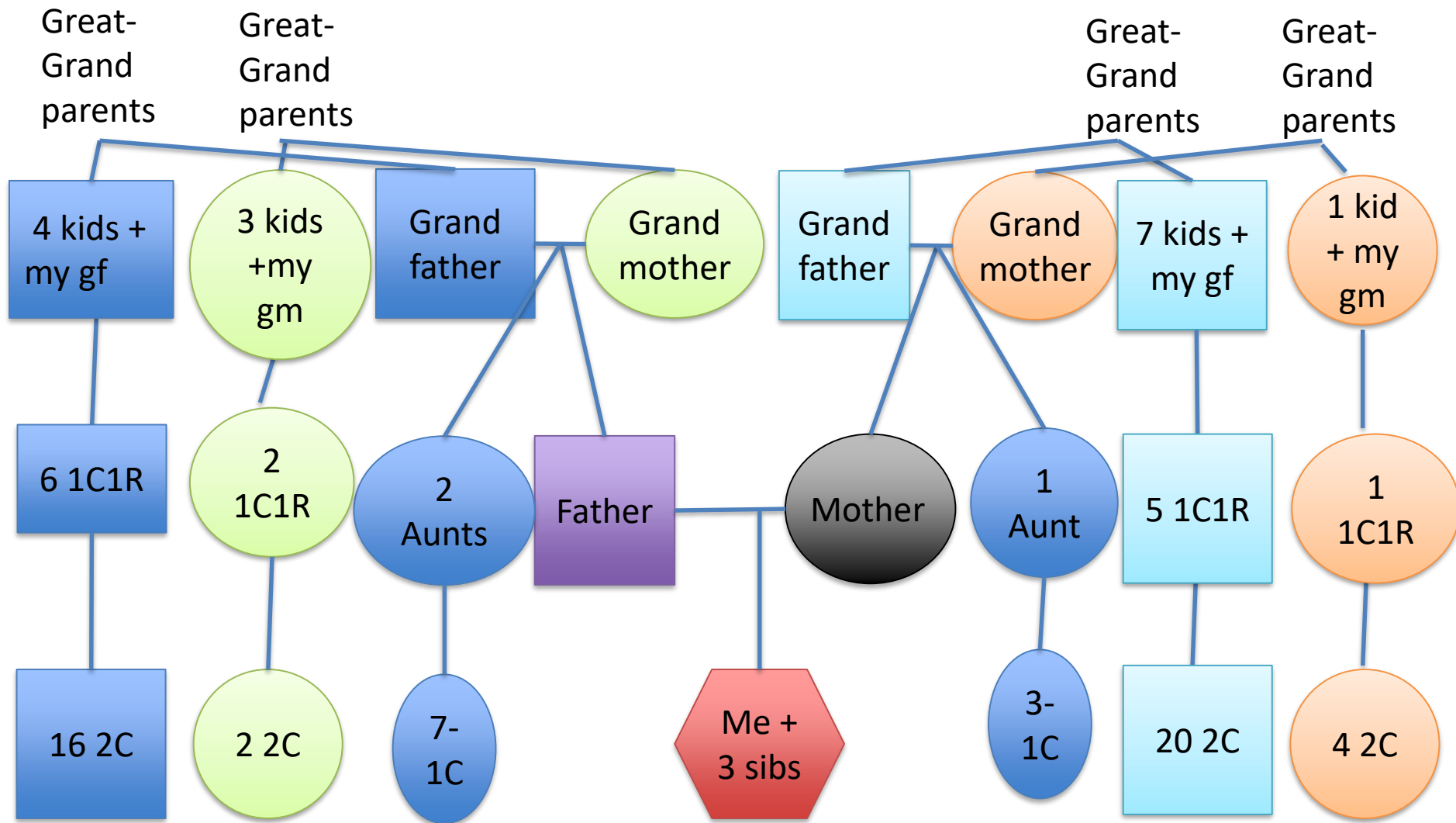
# How Many First Cousins



I have 7 paternal & 3 maternal first cousins.  
I have no half-1C.

To find all your SECOND cousins,  
look for all of the children,  
grandchildren  
and great-grandchildren  
of each of your  
FOUR great-grandparent couples.

# Second Cousins – share GGparents



I have 42 2C, 10 1C, + me & 3 siblings = 56 in my generation

To find all your THIRD cousins,  
look for all of the children,  
grandchildren,  
great-grandchildren,  
and 2x great-grandchildren  
of each of your EIGHT  
2<sup>nd</sup> great-grandparent couples.

# I have found 380 3<sup>rd</sup> Cousins – so far

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1	Descendants of my 8 2X-Great Grandparent couples									Totals
2		Phineas Newlin & Ruth Lewis	Ephraim Bowles & Elizabeth Epperson	Samuel Owen Jr. & Ruth Vestal	Stephen G. Cosand & Mary T. Sexton	John Coxon & Ann Gordin	Samuel Williams & Eliza McMahon	George Gates & Sarah Alspaugh	A.B. Cornwall & Margaret Loy	16
3	# of children	4	12	16	8	8	5	4	10	67
4	# of known grandchildren	27	32	32	28	23	13	7	28	175
5	# of known great-grandchildren	65	41	47	43	33	34	11	49	
6	# of known 2nd great grandchildren	121	79	82	42	69	39	36	68	436
7	me & sibs	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
8	1C	7	7	7	7	3	3	3	3	10
9	2C	16	16	2	2	20	20	4	4	42
10	3C	94	52	69	29	42	12	25	57	<b>380</b>

# Benefits of Finding Cousins

- Share family stories, photos, research
- Identify your DNA matches
- Find more cousins through them
- Get to know more relatives

Descendant Research

is as valuable as

Ancestor Research