

A Wonderful Life!

Amazing Fact

If the average man let his beard grow for the entire length of an average lifespan, it would end up 10 metres long.

For babies born in 1900, there was a very good chance that they would not live to celebrate their 50th birthday. Today, thanks to improved health and safety in many countries around the world, more and more people live to celebrate their 80th, 90th and even 100th birthday.

The data table below shows the average world life expectancy figures, since records began in 1770.

Year	Life Expectancy (years)
1770	29
1820	29
1870	29.7
1913	34.1
1950	48
1973	60
2000	66.4
2015	71.4



Use this data to draw a line graph on the squared paper provided.

Remember to:

- give the overall graph a title;
- give each axis a title;
- use an appropriate scale according to the data intervals;
- plot the points where the axes intersect.

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1. During which years was the greatest increase in life expectancy?

2. What examples of improved health and safety may have contributed to the increase in life expectancy shown in the data?

3. Can you think of reasons why the life expectancy remained the same during the 100 years between 1770 and 1870?

4. What other questions could you ask using the life expectancy data?

You could also try to find out:

- what the longest beard ever is;
- what current trends are in beard fashion;
- what the average human lifespan is;
- whether all human hair grows at the same rate.