



What should I already know?
I know that animals including humans have offspring which grow into adults.

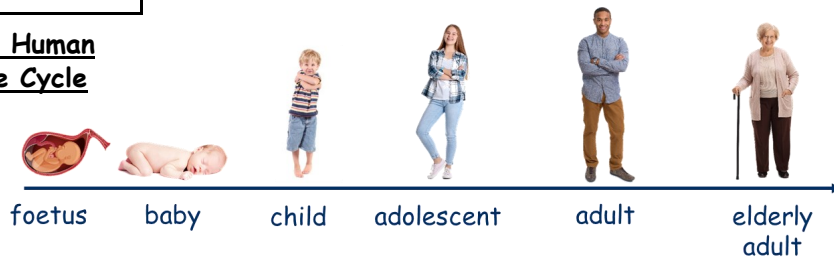
Enquiry Question
Are there patterns linking gestation periods and lifespans?

Vocabulary	
Life cycle	a series of stages a living thing goes through during its life
Baby	from birth to around 1 year old
Toddler	a young child who is between 1 and 3
Child	a young human below the age of puberty
Adolescent	the stage between early childhood and adulthood from around age 11 to 17
Adult	from around age 18 onwards
Elderly adult	a person who is over the age of 65
Milestone	a significant event in a person's life
Puberty	the process that prepares humans for reproduction
gestation	the period of time that a foetus develops in its mother's womb

Growth and Development of Humans		
Childhood	Puberty	Adults to Old Age
<p>When babies are born they are very dependent on their parents. As they grow into infants and children they undergo rapid change.</p> <p>Get taller and muscle mass increases. Their bodies get stronger.</p> <p>Learn to walk and talk.</p> <p>Learn to control their bladder and use the toilet.</p> <p>Brains grow and they learn new skills and knowledge.</p> <p>Become more independent and less reliant on adults for their care.</p>	<p>Puberty is when a child's body begins to grow, change and develop as they become an adult. Puberty happens when the pituitary glands begin to release hormones.</p> <p>Boys</p> <p>Grow taller and develop more muscle mass.</p> <p>Their chest and shoulders broaden.</p> <p>Voices become deeper and skin becomes oilier making them more prone to spots.</p> <p>Hair begins to grow on their faces and bodies.</p> <p>Penis and testicles grow larger. The testicles begin to make million of sperm.</p> <p>Girls</p> <p>Grow taller.</p> <p>They develop breasts and their hip bones widen and become curvier.</p> <p>Hair begins to grow on their body.</p> <p>Menstruation begins. Girls have periods.</p>	<p>As adults get older their bodies undergo more changes.</p> <p>Muscle mass decreases and muscles lose strength.</p> <p>Wrinkles develop on the skin and it loses its elasticity.</p> <p>Hair begins to turn grey/white. Men may begin to lose the hair on their heads.</p> <p>Fertility decreases.</p> <p>People begin to shrink in height as bone and cartilage become worn down.</p> <p>Organs begin to lose their effectiveness, and the senses become weaker.</p>
		



The Human Life Cycle



Animal	Gestation period (months)	Average lifespan (years)
human	9	72
African elephant	22	65
blue whale	11	85
domestic dog	2	12
wild rabbit	1	9