

Did you know?

- It is forecast that by 2050, the world population of over 60s will reach two billion!
- Human babies are the only primate infants that smile at their parents.
- The word 'infant' comes from the Latin word *infans*, which means 'unable to speak'.
- Baby wallabies are called 'joeys'. At birth, they are tiny (around the size of a jellybean) and very underdeveloped. They crawl into their mother's pouch where they continue to grow.
- The human brain carries on growing as you get older. Middle-aged people are therefore better at problem-solving than younger people.
- By eighteen months, a toddler can speak about 50 words and understand around 150!
- The teenage years are a critical time of development in a human's life. Teenagers change physically and have to develop many social, emotional and cognitive skills.
- Humans, horses and dolphins are 'diurnal' animals, which means they are active during the day and sleep at night. Bats, owls and cats are examples of 'nocturnal' animals who are awake at night and sleep during the day.
- A woman's sense of smell and taste is heightened during pregnancy. This is caused by hormone levels and could be nature's way of preventing women from eating toxins that might harm the foetus.
- In the 18th century, a Russian woman gave birth to a total of 69 children. That included 16 pairs of twins, seven pairs of triplets and four sets of quadruplets!
- Elephants have the longest gestation period of any land animal – 22 months!
- *The Time Machine*, a science fiction novel written by H.G. Wells and published in 1895, made the concept of using a vehicle to travel backwards or forwards in time a popular one.
- Dr Who's time machine is called the TARDIS, which stands for 'Time and Relative Dimension in Space'.
- The hippocampus is the part of the brain which helps you recall memories.
- Research shows that being tested actually helps you recall information.