

Population rates

How fast has population increased over human history?
What will help slow the rate of increase?

Materials

- Computer and internet access

Directions

1. Go to pbs.org and launch the interactive map: Human Numbers Through Time:
pbs.org/wgbh/nova/earth/global-population-growth.html
2. Using the chart, determine the year the population number was reached, then the number of years it has taken to increase population by 1 billion or double (where appropriate).

	Human population	Year	Years to next billion/double
1 billion			
2 billion			
3 billion			
4 billion			
5 billion			
6 billion			
7 billion			

Graph these results on iPad GraphBoard app or on graph paper.

3. What reasons can you give for the decreasing time between billions?

Reflection

What factors must be considered to project future growth?