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Level 6 – 3rd November, 2018

Babies of older fathers may be less healthy

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181103-older-fathers.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181103-older-fathers.html>

A study from Stanford University in the USA reports that babies of older fathers may be more likely to have health problems. Scientists studied data on 40,529,905 births in the USA between 2007 and 2016 to ascertain whether a father's age adversely affects his child's health. Researchers discovered that compared to babies born to fathers in the 25-to-34 age bracket, babies born to fathers over the age of 45 were at greater risk of being born with health problems. These included being born prematurely, having a low birth weight or being admitted to a neonatal intensive care unit. The researchers added that babies born to older fathers were generally not as healthy as those conceived by younger fathers.

One scientist said a lot more detailed research was needed to prove that older fathers conceive less-healthy babies. Dr Michael Eisenberg from the Stanford University School of Medicine said: "I think it's important to understand that the risks we are seeing are modest. So for an individual, the risk may not change much." He added that his team's data could show a trend that health departments in governments might want to be aware of. He said: "At a population level, there may be public health implications of men...waiting longer to conceive." Dr Eisenberg concluded that: "While the oldest father ever is 96, this research suggests that the risk to child and mother may increase if fathers conceive later."

Sources: <https://www.newsweek.com/older-dads-more-likely-have-babies-health-problems-1195289>
<http://med.stanford.edu/news/all-news/2018/10/older-fathers-associated-with-increased-birth-risks.html>
<https://www.theguardian.com/science/2018/oct/31/babies-born-to-older-fathers-tend-to-have-more-medical-issues>

WARM-UPS

1. OLDER FATHERS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about older fathers. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

study / university / babies / fathers / health problems / age / risk / weight / born / scientist / important / modest / individual / aware / conceive / change / government

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. AGE LIMIT: Students A **strongly** believe there should be an age limit on parenthood; Students B **strongly** believe there shouldn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. FATHERS: What is the perfect father? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Perfect	Why?
Age		
Discipline		
Teacher		
Playmate		
Friend		
Role Model		

5. HEALTH: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "health". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. BABIES: Rank these with your partner. Put the best things about babies at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- smile
- bath time
- clothes
- hands
- first words
- dinner time
- first steps
- toys

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 1. likely | a. Find something out for certain; make sure of something. |
| 2. ascertain | b. Before the due time; ahead of time. |
| 3. adversely | c. A range of ages people decide on to use in research or for comparisons. |
| 4. age bracket | d. In a way that prevents success or development; harmfully or unfavorably. |
| 5. prematurely | e. Such as well might happen or be true; probable. |
| 6. admitted | f. Anything about newborn children. |
| 7. neonatal | g. Received a patient into a hospital for treatment. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 8. prove | h. A general direction in which something is developing or changing. |
| 9. conceive | i. Show the truth or existence of something by evidence or argument. |
| 10. modest | j. About, of or for just one person. |
| 11. data | k. The conclusion that can be drawn from something. |
| 12. individual | l. Of an amount, rate, or level relatively limited, or small. |
| 13. trend | m. Facts and statistics collected together for reference or analysis. |
| 14. implications | n. Become pregnant with a child; father a child. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181103-older-fathers.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. A report on the health of babies was made by Yale University. **T / F**
- b. Scientists studied data on over 40 million births. **T / F**
- c. The article says babies born to fathers aged over 55 were unhealthy. **T / F**
- d. Babies born to older fathers are generally heavier at birth. **T / F**
- e. A scientist said there was a lot of research to prove the research. **T / F**
- f. A doctor said the risks are not so big. **T / F**
- g. The doctor said governments needed to know about the research. **T / F**
- h. The oldest ever father to have conceived a child is 96. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. study | a. small |
| 2. likely | b. group |
| 3. ascertain | c. as a rule |
| 4. bracket | d. consequences |
| 5. generally | e. probable |
| 6. prove | f. chance |
| 7. modest | g. paper |
| 8. data | h. show beyond doubt |
| 9. implications | i. facts and figures |
| 10. risk | j. find out |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. older fathers may be more likely to | a. implications |
| 2. a father's age adversely | b. intensive care |
| 3. fathers in the 25-to-34 | c. was needed |
| 4. being admitted to a neonatal | d. aware of |
| 5. babies born to older fathers were | e. have health problems |
| 6. a lot more detailed research | f. may increase |
| 7. his team's data could show a | g. age bracket |
| 8. governments might want to be | h. generally not as healthy |
| 9. public health | i. trend |
| 10. the risk to child and mother | j. affects his child's health |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181103-older-fathers.html>

A study from Stanford University in the USA reports that babies of older fathers may be more (1) _____ to have health problems. Scientists studied data on 40,529,905 births in the USA between 2007 and 2016 to (2) _____ whether a father's age adversely affects his child's health. Researchers discovered that (3) _____ to babies born to fathers in the 25-to-34 age (4) _____, babies born to fathers over the age of 45 were at (5) _____ risk of being born with health problems. These included being born (6) _____, having a low birth weight or being admitted to a neonatal intensive (7) _____ unit. The researchers added that babies born to older fathers were generally not as healthy as those (8) _____ by younger fathers.

greater
compared
care
likely
conceived
bracket
ascertain
prematurely

One scientist said a lot more (9) _____ research was needed to (10) _____ that older fathers conceive less-healthy babies. Dr Michael Eisenberg from the Stanford University School of Medicine said: "I think it's important to understand that the risks we are seeing are (11) _____. So for an individual, the risk may not change much." He added that his team's (12) _____ could show a trend that health departments in governments might want to be (13) _____ of. He said: "At a population level, there may be public health (14) _____ of men...waiting longer to conceive." Dr Eisenberg (15) _____ that: "While the oldest father ever is 96, this research suggests that the risk to child and mother may increase if fathers conceive (16) _____."

implications
detailed
data
concluded
prove
later
modest
aware

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181103-older-fathers.html>

- 1) babies of older fathers may be more likely to have _____
 - a. health problem
 - b. healthy problems
 - c. healthy problem
 - d. health problems
- 2) ascertain whether a father's age _____ his child's health
 - a. adverse sly affects
 - b. adversely effects
 - c. reverse the affects
 - d. adversely affects
- 3) Researchers discovered that compared to babies born to fathers in the 25-to-34 _____
 - a. rage bracket
 - b. sage bracket
 - c. age bracket
 - d. cage bracket
- 4) These included being _____
 - a. bourn prematurely
 - b. burn prematurely
 - c. born prematurely
 - d. barn prematurely
- 5) having a low birth weight or being admitted to a neonatal _____ unit
 - a. intensive scared
 - b. intensive care
 - c. intensive cares
 - d. intensive scare
- 6) One scientist said a lot more detailed research was needed _____
 - a. to prove that
 - b. to proof that
 - c. to proves that
 - d. to proved that
- 7) I think it's important to understand that the risks we are _____
 - a. seeing are modest
 - b. seeing are modestly
 - c. seen are modest
 - d. seen are modestly
- 8) data could show a trend that health departments in governments might want to _____
 - a. be a where of
 - b. be a wire of
 - c. be beware of
 - d. be aware of
- 9) At a population level, there may be public health _____
 - a. implications off men
 - b. implications of man
 - c. implications of men
 - d. complications of man
- 10) research suggests that the risk to child and mother may increase if fathers _____
 - a. sieve lately
 - b. conceive later
 - c. receive later
 - d. deceive later

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181103-older-fathers.html>

A study from Stanford University in the USA (1) _____ of older fathers may be more (2) _____ health problems. Scientists studied data on 40,529,905 births in the USA between 2007 and 2016 (3) _____ a father's age adversely affects his child's health. Researchers discovered that compared to babies born to fathers in the 25-to-34 (4) _____ born to fathers over the age of 45 were at greater risk of being born with health problems. These included (5) _____, having a low birth weight or being admitted to a neonatal intensive care unit. The researchers added that babies born to older fathers were generally not as healthy (6) _____ by younger fathers.

One scientist said a lot more detailed research was (7) _____ that older fathers conceive less-healthy babies. Dr Michael Eisenberg from the Stanford University School of Medicine said: "I think it's important to understand (8) _____ we are (9) _____. So for an individual, the risk may not change much." He added that his team's data could (10) _____ that health departments in governments might want to (11) _____. He said: "At a population level, there may be public health implications of men...waiting longer to conceive." Dr Eisenberg concluded that: "While the oldest father ever is 96, (12) _____ that the risk to child and mother may increase if fathers conceive later."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181103-older-fathers.html>

1. What university conducted this research?
2. How many millions of people's data did scientists look at?
3. What age bracket did researchers compare over-45-year-old fathers to?
4. What might be low in babies born to older fathers?
5. What kind of care units might babies born to older fathers stay in?
6. What did a scientist say was needed to prove this research?
7. For whom might the risks not change much?
8. Who did a doctor say should be aware of this research?
9. How old is the oldest ever father?
10. Who might be at risk (besides babies) if fathers conceive later?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181103-older-fathers.html>

- 1) What university conducted this research?
 - a) Yale University
 - b) Oxford University
 - c) Stanford University
 - d) Tokyo University
- 2) How many millions of people's data did scientists look at?
 - a) 40
 - b) 400
 - c) 14
 - d) 44
- 3) What age bracket did researchers compare over-45-year-old fathers to?
 - a) 25 to 34
 - b) 25 to 40
 - c) 35 to 40
 - d) 20 to 45
- 4) What might be low in babies born to older fathers?
 - a) blood pressure
 - b) birth weight
 - c) heart rate
 - d) red blood cell count
- 5) What kind of care units might babies born to older fathers stay in?
 - a) day care units
 - b) health care units
 - c) prenatal unit
 - d) intensive care unit
- 6) What did a scientist say was needed to prove this study?
 - a) more hospitals
 - b) detailed research
 - c) money
 - d) more people
- 7) For whom might the risks not change much?
 - a) individuals
 - b) babies
 - c) hospitals
 - d) doctors
- 8) Who did a doctor say should be aware of this research?
 - a) women
 - b) old men
 - c) governments
 - d) doctors
- 9) How old is the oldest ever father?
 - a) 99
 - b) 86
 - c) 106
 - d) 96
- 10) Who might be at risk (besides babies) if fathers conceive later?
 - a) mothers
 - b) teenagers
 - c) doctors
 - d) scientists

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181103-older-fathers.html>

Role A – Smiles

You think smiles are the best things about babies. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least cute of these (and why): bath time, toys or first words.

Role B – Bath Time

You think bath time is the best thing about babies. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least cute of these (and why): smiles, toys or first words.

Role C – Toys

You think toys are the best things about babies. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least cute of these (and why): bath time, smiles or first words.

Role D – First Words

You think first words are the best things about babies. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least cute of these (and why): bath time, toys or smiles.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181103-older-fathers.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'older' and 'father'.

older	father

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• study• births• adversely• bracket• 45• generally	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• prove• understand• change• trend• level• 96
---	--

OLDER FATHERS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181103-older-fathers.html>

Write five GOOD questions about older fathers in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

OLDER FATHERS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'fathers'?
3. What do you think of older fathers?
4. Would you be an older parent?
5. What are the advantages of having an older father?
6. What are the advantages of being an older father?
7. Should there be an age limit on men and women becoming parents?
8. What kind of parent would you be?
9. Should governments educate people about this research?
10. Do people need to think more carefully about having children?

Babies of older fathers may be less healthy – 3rd November, 2018
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OLDER FATHERS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'babies'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What are the risks of parenthood?
15. What are the disadvantages of having an older father?
16. What are the disadvantages of being an older father?
17. What are the joys of parenthood?
18. What three adjectives best describe this story?
19. What do you think of a 96-year-old becoming a father?
20. What questions would you like to ask the researchers?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181103-older-fathers.html>

A study from Stanford University in the USA reports that babies of older fathers may be more (1) _____ to have health problems. Scientists studied data on 40,529,905 births in the USA between 2007 and 2016 to (2) _____ whether a father's age (3) _____ affects his child's health. Researchers discovered that compared to babies born to fathers in the 25-to-34 age (4) _____, babies born to fathers over the age of 45 were at greater risk of being born with health problems. These included being born prematurely, having a low birth weight or being (5) _____ to a neonatal intensive care unit. The researchers added that babies born to older fathers were (6) _____ not as healthy as those conceived by younger fathers.

One scientist said a lot more detailed research was needed to (7) _____ that older fathers conceive less-healthy babies. Dr Michael Eisenberg from the Stanford University School of Medicine said: "I think it's important (8) _____ understand that the risks we are seeing are modest. So for an (9) _____, the risk may not change much." He added that his team's data could show a (10) _____ that health departments in governments might want to be (11) _____ of. He said: "At a population level, there may be public health implications of men...waiting longer to conceive." Dr Eisenberg concluded that: "While the oldest father ever is 96, this research (12) _____ that the risk to child and mother may increase if fathers conceive later."

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) likes | (b) liked | (c) likely | (d) likelihood |
| 2. | (a) ascertain | (b) retain | (c) entertain | (d) contain |
| 3. | (a) advising | (b) adversely | (c) adverts | (d) adverse |
| 4. | (a) hinge | (b) support | (c) holder | (d) bracket |
| 5. | (a) confessed | (b) submitted | (c) admitted | (d) recorded |
| 6. | (a) general | (b) generally | (c) generalize | (d) generality |
| 7. | (a) prove | (b) proof | (c) proving | (d) provide |
| 8. | (a) that | (b) by | (c) for | (d) to |
| 9. | (a) answer | (b) omen | (c) individual | (d) angle |
| 10. | (a) attend | (b) tend | (c) portend | (d) trend |
| 11. | (a) familiar | (b) aware | (c) realize | (d) knowledge |
| 12. | (a) suggests | (b) digests | (c) ingests | (d) congests |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181103-older-fathers.html>

Paragraph 1

1. to taesarnci whether a father's age...
2. vearsdly affects his child's health
3. the 25-to-34 age ertabck
4. being born yelarumptre
5. admitted to a neonatal sieentvni care unit
6. those cneeoivcd by younger fathers

Paragraph 2

7. a lot more dteildae research
8. the risks we are seeing are mteosd
9. for an aliidduvni
10. health rnteatsdepn in governments
11. health tiimcpaniols
12. Dr Eisenberg nccdluoed that

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181103-older-fathers.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () weight or being admitted to a neonatal intensive care unit. The researchers added that babies
- () whether a father's age adversely affects his child's health. Researchers discovered that compared
- () risk of being born with health problems. These included being born prematurely, having a low birth
- () problems. Scientists studied data on 40,529,905 births in the USA between 2007 and 2016 to ascertain
- () conceive less-healthy babies. Dr Michael Eisenberg from the Stanford University School of Medicine said: "I think it's
- () governments might want to be aware of. He said: "At a population level, there may be public health
- () implications of men...waiting longer to conceive." Dr Eisenberg concluded that: "While the oldest father ever is
- () to babies born to fathers in the 25-to-34 age bracket, babies born to fathers over the age of 45 were at greater
- () born to older fathers were generally not as healthy as those conceived by younger fathers.
- () important to understand that the risks we are seeing are modest. So for an individual, the risk may
- () not change much." He added that his team's data could show a trend that health departments in
- () One scientist said a lot more detailed research was needed to prove that older fathers
- () 96, this research suggests that the risk to child and mother may increase if fathers conceive later."
- (**1**) A study from Stanford University in the USA reports that babies of older fathers may be more likely to have health

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181103-older-fathers.html>

1. of fathers likely . may older Babies more be
2. age affects child's father's adversely his health . A
3. the of Babies fathers to 45 . born over age
4. born At with problems . greater being risk of
5. younger fathers . As conceived by as those healthy
6. was more lot needed . A detailed research
7. less-healthy that fathers babies . older Prove conceive
8. seeing we The risks are are modest .
9. an much . the may individual, not For risk change
10. mother may to increase . child risk and The

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181103-older-fathers.html>

A *study / sturdy* from Stanford University in the USA reports that babies of older fathers may be more *liked / likely* to have health problems. Scientists *studied / studying* data on 40,529,905 births in the USA between 2007 and 2016 to *ascertain / retain* whether a father's age *adversely / adverse* affects his child's health. Researchers discovered that compared to babies born to fathers in the 25-to-34 age *bucket / bracket*, babies born to fathers over the age of 45 were at greater risk of being *birth / born* with health problems. These included being born *maturing / prematurely*, having a low birth weight or being admitted to a neonatal *intense / intensive* care unit. The researchers added that babies born to older fathers were generally not as healthy as those *conceived / contracted* by younger fathers.

One scientist said a lot more *detail / detailed* research was needed to prove that older fathers conceive less-healthy babies. Dr Michael Eisenberg from the Stanford University School of Medicine said: "I think it's *important / importantly* to understand that the risks we are seeing are *modern / modest*. So for an individual, the *risk / risky* may not change much." He added that his team's data could show a *blend / trend* that health departments in governments might want to be *aware / beware* of. He said: "At a population level, there may be public health *implies / implications* of men...waiting longer to conceive." Dr Eisenberg concluded that: "While the oldest father *even / ever* is 96, this research *suggests / suggestion* that the risk to child and mother may increase if fathers conceive *lately / later*."

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181103-older-fathers.html>

A s t_d y f r_m S t_n f_r d U n_v_r s_t y _n t h_ U
S A r_p_r t_s t_h_t b_b__ s _f _l d_r f_t h_r s m_y
b_ m_r_ l_k_l y t_ h_v_ h__ l t h p_r_b l_m s . S c__
n t_s t_s s t_d__ d d_t__ n 4 0 , 5 2 9 , 9 0 5 b_r t_h s
n t h U S A b_t w__ n 2 0 0 7 _n d 2 0 1 6 t_ s
c_r t__ n w h_t h_r _ f_t h_r ' s _g_ _d v_r s_l y _f f_c
t_s h_s c_h_l d ' s h__ l t h . R_s__ r c_h_r s d_s
c_v_r_d t_h_t c_m p_r_d t_ b_b__ s b_r n t_ f_t h_r
s _n t h_ 2 5 - t_- 3 4 _g_ b_r c_k_t , b_b__ s b_r n
t_ f_t h_r s _v_r t h_ _g_ _f 4 5 w_r_ t g_r__ t_r
r_s k _f b__ n g b_r n w_t h h__ l t h p_r_b l_m s .
T h_s_ _n c_l_d_d b__ n g b_r n p_r_m_t_r_l y , h_v_n
g _ l_w b_r t h w__ g h t _r b__ n g _d m_t t_d t_
_ n__ n_t_l _n t_n s_v_ c_r__ n_t . T h_ r_s__ r c_h_r s
_d d_d t_h_t b_b__ s b_r n t_ _l d_r f_t h_r s w_r_
g_n_r_l l y n_t_s h__ l t h y _s t h_s_ c_n c__ v_d
b y y__ n g_r f_t h_r s .

O n_ s c__ n t_s t s__ d _ l_t m_r_ d_t__ l_d r_s__ r
c h w_s n__ d_d t_ p_r_v_ t_h_t _l d_r f_t h_r s
c_n c__ v_ l_s s - h__ l t h y b_b__ s . D r M_c h__ l
E_s_n b_r g f_r_m t h_ S t_n f_r d U n_v_r s_t y S c
h__ l _f M_d_c_n_ s__ d : " I t h_n k _t ' s _m p_r
t_n t t_ _n d_r s t_n d t_h_t t h_ r_s k s w_r_
s__ n g _r_ m_d_s t . S_ f_r _n _n d_v_d__ l , t h_
r_s k m_y n_t c_h_n g_ m_c h . " H__ d d_d t_h_t
h_s t__ m ' s d_t_ c__ l d s_h_w _ t_r_n d t_h_t
h__ l t h d_p_r t_m_n t_s _n g_v_r n m_n t_s m_g h t
w_n t t_ b_ _w_r_ _f . H_ s__ d : " A t _ p_p_l_t__ n
l_v_l , t h_r_ m_y b_ p_b_l_c h__ l t h _m p_l_c_t__ n
s _f m_n . . . w__ t_n g l_n g_r t_ c_n c__ v_ . " D r
E_s_n b_r g_r c_n c_l_d_d t_h_t : " W h_l_ t h_ _l d_s t
f_t h_r _v_r _s 9 6 , t h_s r_s__ r c_h_ s_g g_s t_s t
h_t t h_ r_s k t_ c_h_l d _n d m_t h_r m_y _n c_r__
s _f f_t h_r s c_n c__ v_ l_t_r . "

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181103-older-fathers.html>

a study from stanford university in the usa reports that babies of older fathers may be more likely to have health problems scientists studied data on 40529905 births in the usa between 2007 and 2016 to ascertain whether a fathers age adversely affects his childs health researchers discovered that compared to babies born to fathers in the 25to34 age bracket babies born to fathers over the age of 45 were at greater risk of being born with health problems these included being born prematurely having a low birth weight or being admitted to a neonatal intensive care unit the researchers added that babies born to older fathers were generally not as healthy as those conceived by younger fathers

one scientist said a lot more detailed research was needed to prove that older fathers conceive lesshealthy babies dr michael eisenberg from the stanford university school of medicine said i think its important to understand that the risks we are seeing are modest so for an individual the risk may not change much he added that his teams data could show a trend that health departments in governments might want to be aware of he said at a population level there may be public health implications of menwaiting longer to conceive dr Eisenberg concluded that while the oldest father ever is 96 this research suggests that the risk to child and mother may increase if fathers conceive later"

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1811/181103-older-fathers.html>

A study from Stanford University in the USA reports that babies of older fathers may be more likely to have health problems. Scientists studied data on 40,529,905 births in the USA between 2007 and 2016 to ascertain whether a father's age adversely affects his child's health. Researchers discovered that compared to babies born to fathers in the 25-to-34 age bracket, babies born to fathers over the age of 45 were at greater risk of being born with health problems. These included being born prematurely, having a low birth weight or being admitted to an neonatal intensive care unit. The researchers added that babies born to older fathers were generally not as healthy as those conceived by younger fathers. One scientist said a lot more detailed research was needed to prove that older fathers conceive less healthy babies. Dr Michael Eisenberg from the Stanford University School of Medicine said: "I think it's important to understand that the risks we are seeing are modest. So for an individual, the risk may not change much." He added that his team's data could show a trend that health departments and governments might want to be aware of. He said: "At a population level, there may be public health implications of men... waiting long to conceive." Dr Eisenberg concluded that: "While the oldest father ever is 96, this research suggests that the risk to child and mother may increase if fathers conceive later."

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. OLDER FATHERS: Make a poster about older fathers. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. AGE LIMIT: Write a magazine article about there being an age limit on when a man can become a father. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on older fathers. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your opinions on older fathers. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. e 2. a 3. d 4. c 5. b 6. g 7. f
8. i 9. n 10. l 11. m 12. j 13. h 14. k

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- a F b T c F d F e F f T g T h T

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| 1. study | a. paper |
| 2. likely | b. probable |
| 3. ascertain | c. find out |
| 4. bracket | d. group |
| 5. generally | e. as a rule |
| 6. prove | f. show beyond doubt |
| 7. modest | g. small |
| 8. data | h. facts and figures |
| 9. implications | i. consequences |
| 10. risk | j. chance |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- Stanford University
- 40
- 25 to 34
- Birth weight
- Intensive care units
- More detailed research
- Individuals
- Health departments in governments
- 96
- Mothers

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

- Babies of older fathers may be more likely.
- A father's age adversely affects his child's health.
- Babies born to fathers over the age of 45.
- At greater risk of being born with problems.
- As healthy as those conceived by younger fathers.
- A lot more detailed research was needed.
- Prove that older fathers conceive less-healthy babies.
- The risks we are seeing are modest.
- For an individual, the risk may not change much.
- The risk to child and mother may increase.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. c 2. a 3. a 4. b 5. d 6. b 7. a 8. c 9. d 10. a

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)