

TIMELINES

A Lesson Design

OBJECTIVES:

- to get an idea of the chronological sequence of important events throughout your own life, and how to visualise it [Eval, Anal, Ap]
- to be able to visualise the relative distances in time between different events and periods in your life [Ap]

Introductory questions to ask the students:

You know that a round clock can show time, but did you know you that you can also show time on a line?

All you have to do is draw a line, and divide it into hours, days, years, or whatever divisions of time you like. You can choose your own scale: For example, you could choose the scale of 12 cm = 1 year. Then you could also divide the year into months.

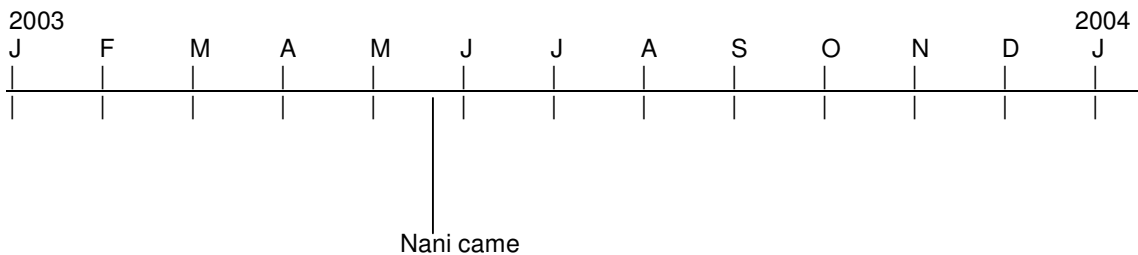
On this timeline, how many centimetres equal 1 month? Can you also divide each month into days? Or can you guess about where the 15th of the month will be?

Marking events on a timeline on the board:

Tell a story about a girl who is around the same age as the students. It will be the story of various things that have happened to her throughout her life. (Maybe you could make it the story of your own life.) Whenever you tell about an important (or unimportant, or interesting) event, ask a student to come and plot it on the timeline on the board. Some of these events can be strange or funny or very minor.

Students make their own 1 year timelines:

Erase the board and make a new timeline, just for the past one year. Ask each student to make a timeline on their own papers, using the scale: 3 cm = 1 year. Then each student should mark events that really occurred to themselves on their timeline. They should try to think of as many different kinds of events as they can.



Students can write birthdays, vacations, trips, visits by relatives, interesting things that happened at school, important news items, etc.

Tell the students that in this way they are making history – they are recording a year's **HISTORY** on a **TIMELINE!**

VARIATION:

Collect one whole month's newspapers. Look through the newspapers for interesting events to record on a timeline for that month.

MAKE A TIMELINE OF YOUR LIFE

First, you may need some practice in figuring out dates.

Do you know what year you were born? If you know your age, you can figure it out - just subtract your age from the present year - or from last year if you haven't had your birthday yet this year. Or you can make a timeline and count backwards on the timeline.

1. For example if it is now April 1999, I am 8 years old, and my birthday was in March, I was born in the year $1999 - 8 = 1991$.
2. If Smita is 12 years old and her birthday is in September, she was born in the year $1998 - 12 = 1986$.
3. If it is now April 1999 and Anayat is 10 years old, and her birthday is in January, what year was she born in?
4. If it is now April 1999 and Jagjit is 9 years old, and his birthday is in May, what year was he born in?
5. If it is now November 1999 and Uma is 10 years old, and her birthday is in June, what year was she born in?
6. If it is now April 1999 and Anayat is starting Class V, when did she start Class I?
7. If it is now April 1999 and Foolima is starting Class VI, when did she start Class II?
8. If it is now July 1999 and Paritosh's parents got married 14 years ago in January, when did they get married?

Now make a timeline of your life. Use a scale of 2 cm = 1 year.

How many cm long will your timeline be?

Think of things that have happened to you throughout your life. Think of things that are:

interesting:

unusual:

funny:

sad:

dangerous:

important:

Record these things on your timeline.

You can also draw pictures of a few of these things at the right places on the timeline. Or maybe you could stick on one or two photographs of yourself at different ages.

Ekta's Timeline:

Today is 27 October 1999, and it's Ekta's 10th birthday. She is in Class IV. She has lived in Chandigarh all her life, except for two years when she went with her mother to live in Delhi. Her mother was a servant for a family, and when they shifted to Delhi in February 1993, they brought the servants with them. But they didn't like staying with that family (Ekta remembered seeing her mother being beaten in June 1994), so when a friend found Ekta's mother a new job in Chandigarh, they came back. Now they had a small house of their own in a village just outside the city. Her brother had found a job as a mali in Chandigarh in January 1994, and they had enough money so that Ekta could start going to school that April. Her younger sister, Supriya was born in July when Ekta was 7. The two sisters loved to climb trees in the park near where their mother worked. She remembered how on Holi when her sister was four and a half, she had first learned to climb trees.

I want to make a timeline for the year 1998 for a girl named Baljit, who lives in Chandigarh.

She started Class IV on 6 April.

Diwali was on 30 October, and she went to her village in Punjab on that morning. She went back home on 8 November.

Sometime in the beginning of May she went with her class to visit the Rock Garden and have a picnic. She had her birthday on June 24, but it was so hot that day she slept all afternoon, until she was suddenly woken up by her friends who had come to celebrate.

One day in the middle of July a small puppy came to Baljit's house, to get shelter from the rain. Ever since then she has been taking care of it.

Baljit drew a sketch which was published in the newspaper on Feb 1.

Baljit's brother, Darminder went to Delhi at the end of September.

On January 22, Baljit got a letter from her Dadi and Dada. They said her Tai had a new baby - a fat little baby girl named Indu.