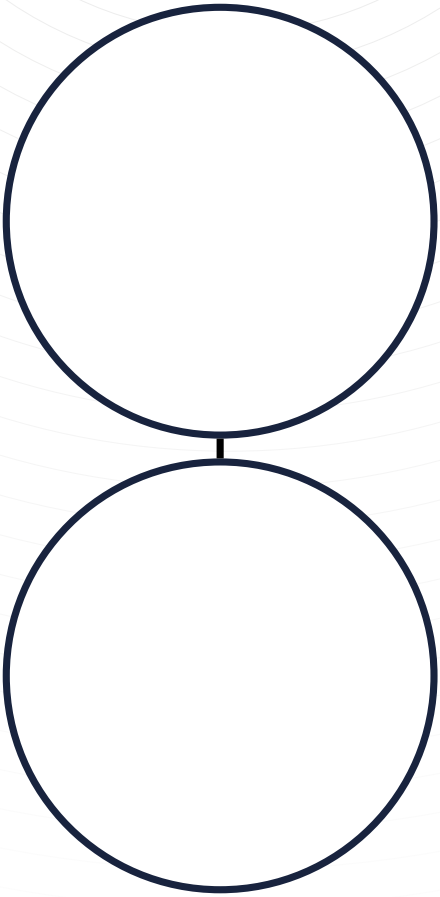
RACE AGAINST THE AGEING CLOCK

The ageing process in *C. elegans* worms

Early life



Late life

What differences do you notice between early and late life worms?

1. .....

2. .....

Did you know that:

- The average life span of a *C. elegans* worm is 2-3 weeks.
- *C. elegans* growth rate depends on temperature, they grow roughly twice as fast at 25 °C as at 15 °C.
- Wild *C. elegans* worms live by eating bacteria growing on decomposing plant material.
- *C. elegans* worms were the first animals to have their whole genome sequenced.
- *C. elegans* worms have been used to study animal adaptation to space on the International Space Station.
- Young *C. elegans* larvae are very resilient, they can survive freezing as well as extended starvation.
- As a result, scientists worldwide can easily share live worm samples by sending them in the post!

Find out more about ageing research at the Babraham Institute: www.babraham.ac.uk

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