

# What is your earliest childhood memory – and did it really happen?

July 19, 2018

It is a much pondered and discussed subject: your earliest childhood memory. For some, it is their first bee sting or a formative interaction with a parent as a toddler. Others claim to be able to recall lying in a pram. But how sure are you that you have actually remembered this experience, rather than it being informed by photographs and family anecdotes?

A new study [published in the Psychological Science journal](#) found that 40% of people believe they have a first memory dating back to the age of two or earlier, including having a nappy changed, being in a pushchair or even walking for the first time. Three tends to be the more commonly agreed age of a realistic first memory, but the British academics behind the research suggest five or six is a more likely age to remember something from.