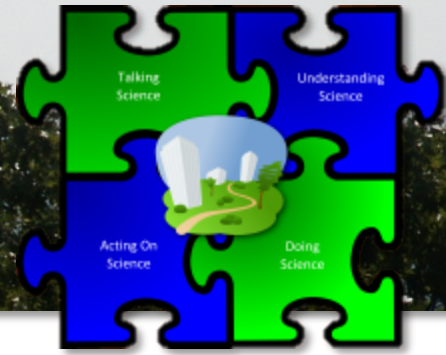


Urban EcoLab Curriculum

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Dog Populations

Module 9, Lesson 2



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Predict

- If you start with 1 unspayed female dog and her mate, and all of their puppies, and if none are ever neutered or spayed, how many dogs will you have in a year?
 - What about 3 years?
 - What about 6 years?



An unspayed female dog, her mate and all of their puppies, if none are ever neutered or spayed, add up to:

- 1 year: 16**
- 2 years: 128**
- 3 years: 512**
- 4 years: 2,048**
- 5 years: 12,288**
- 6 years: 67,000**



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION ADJUSTED BY TOMAS HARTIGEL, PUPPIES BY PATTI LUBHORN/OWEN RETRIEVERS

How did we get to 67,000 in 6 years?

Golden Retrievers



Average lifespan: 10-12 years

One litter



Some information

- A female golden retriever can get pregnant once she enters proestrus (around 14 months). Each cycle lasts about a week and repeats 1-2 times a year.
- Gestation period: 62 days
- A male golden retriever can breed starting at age 6 months.

Given this information...

- How long would it take to get to 1 million golden retrievers?