

*It is helpful for to have an understanding of the key events that have shaped your life.*

## Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**INSTRUCTIONS STEP 1:** Note the key events you feel have shaped your life - both negatively and positively.

1. Record your birth on the left-edge of the paper.
2. Draw a continuous line mapping your life from birth to the current day, mapping the high points with peaks and the low points with valleys.
3. Write a couple of words description and your age at each of the peaks & troughs (eg. moved city, university, graduated, parents divorced etc).
4. Here are some questions to think about before you get started:
* What are the significant milestones/events in your life to date?
* What things have you done that you're proud of? (achievements big and small, from childhood onwards)
* What were you interested in as a child? What were your childhood passions?

5. Before answering the review questions below ask yourself, "What is needed to make your life-map more rounded and complete? What seemingly small event had a big impact on your life?" Now add this event/s to your map?

**LIFE MAP EXAMPLE:**

*NB. This exercise is meant to be completed quickly – just turn over, start drawing the line and see where it takes you.*

5 – start school

5 – broken leg

8 – won art competition

30 – get divorced

10 – start new school/bullied

13 – first boy/girlfriend

19 – moved city

25 – get married

33 – buy ideal house

BORN, June 5th 1965

36 - Start new business

**INSTRUCTIONS STEP 2:** This is about learning about yourself and noticing what your life-map is telling you.

1. Imagine your life-map belongs to someone else. How do you feel about that person when you look at the life-map?
2. What values do you notice reflected in your important events?
3. When/what risks did you take?
4. How did you overcome obstacles?
5. When/what were the best decisions for you and why?
6. When/what were the worst decisions for you and why?
7. What would you change about your life-map if you could?
8. What patterns can you recognize?
9. How might you be holding onto the past?
10. What beliefs (about yourself, life and/or others) were formed at each key event/milestone?

**OPTION:** Draw your life map forwards into the future to identify hidden goals and fears. Put pen to paper, then without thinking draw your anticipated peak and trough life experiences. Add your expected age and a short description as before.



**Draw Your Life Map below:**

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**Born:**