



# Here Comes Halley!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Halley's Comet zooms by Earth regularly, and so it has a chance--a tiny one--of colliding with our planet. During a flyby, the famous chunk of ice is easy to spot, even without a telescope. For example, there are reports from 240 B.C., when ancient Chinese stargazers saw it without any problems.

Here's a timeline that shows some of the world-changing events that happened between Halley's visits. As you will see, Halley doesn't appear at exactly even intervals. By utilizing a scatter plot of the dates in the timeline, what year would you expect the comet to turn up next? \_\_\_\_\_ Use a line of best fit to justify your answer.

1301	1387	1456	1531	1607	1682	1759	1835	1910	1986
-Aztecs built Tenochtitlan (now Mexico City) 1325	-Gutenberg invents the printing press. 1455	-Columbus sets sail to find a water route to Asia. 1492	-Copernicus develops theory of sun-centered solar system. 1542	-Pilgrims arrive in Plymouth, MA on the Mayflower. 1607	-Salem witchcraft trials. 1692	-American Revolution begins. 1776	-Civil War begins. 1861	-World War I begins. 1915	-Space Shuttle Challenger expodes. 1986

Author Mark Twain was born in 1835 when Halley's Comet was shooting across the sky. He said, "It will be the greatest disappointment of my life if I don't go out with Halley's Comet."

On April 21, 1910, the day after the comet returned, Twain died.


