20 Fun Facts About Twins by Lori Bregman
<https://www.modernmom.com/db59d6d2-3b3d-11e3-be8a-bc764e04a41e.html>

Here are some fun and interesting facts about twins:

1. In 1980, one in every 53 babies born in the United States was a twin. By 2009, that number had risen to one in 30, which means that over three decades, the twin birth rate (number of twins per 1,000 births) rose 76%.

2. The chances of having a twin pregnancy is increased by maternal age (30+).

3. There is a "twin gene" - fraternal twining.

4. Identical twins cannot be genetically predisposed.

5. Male twins will not have twins unless their wives have the ability to produce twins.

6. Identical twins share the same DNA but do not have the same fingerprints.

7. About 1 in 250 pregnancies results in identical twins.

8. 22 % percent of twins are left handed, compared to 10% in singletons.

9. Fraternal twin girls have twice the chance of giving birth to twins than singletons.

10. Vanishing twin syndrome- 15-20% percent of all twin pregnancies will miscarry one fetus.

11. Some estimates suggest 1 in 8 people started life as a twin while 1 in 70 actually are a twin.

12. Once you have fraternal twins, you are 3 to 4 times more likely to have another set!

13. Nigeria has the highest rate of multiple births and more identical twins.

14. China has the lowest rate for multiple births averaging 1 in 300.

15. A study shows vegans are five times less likely to have twins than women who consume diary.

16. For polar bears, twins aren't unusual at all. In fact, they most commonly give birth to twins, and rarely deliver single cubs or triplets.

17. Twins bond in the womb. By examining 3D ultrasound images, a study in Padova, Italy found that fetuses start deliberately interacting at 14 weeks.

18. 40% of twins invent their own language.

19. They tend to be early - over 50% of twins are born before 37 weeks.

20. The average birth weight for a twin is 5lbs, 5 oz.

A total of 3,952,841 births were registered in the United States in 2012, slightly fewer births (749) than in 2011.