

Science - Reproductive Cycles

Are the lifecycles of mammals all the same?

Downloadable Resource

Miss Hummel



Think task:

Do you know the gestation period of a human baby?

How does this compare to an elephant or mouse?



Match the words

Match the names of the groups of mammals with their definition:

Placental
Mammals

Hatch from eggs. The babies have to hatch out of an egg before they are prepared to continue growing outside of their mothers. Only two mammals actually lay eggs. These include the echidna, or spiny anteater, and the duck-billed platypus.

Monotremes

Continue to grow inside their mothers' pouches after they are born. Examples include kangaroos, wallabies, possums, sugar gliders, wombats, Tasmanian devils, and koalas.

Marsupials

Are born prepared to continue their growth outside of their mothers' wombs. Examples include humans, elephants, dogs, and cats.



Answers:

Match the names of the groups of mammals with their definition:

Placental
Mammals

Monotremes

Marsupials

Hatch from eggs. The babies have to hatch out of an egg before they are prepared to continue growing outside of their mothers. Only two mammals actually lay eggs. These include the echidna, or spiny anteater, and the duck-billed platypus.

Continue to grow inside their mothers' pouches after they are born. Examples include kangaroos, wallabies, possums, sugar gliders, wombats, Tasmanian devils, and koalas.

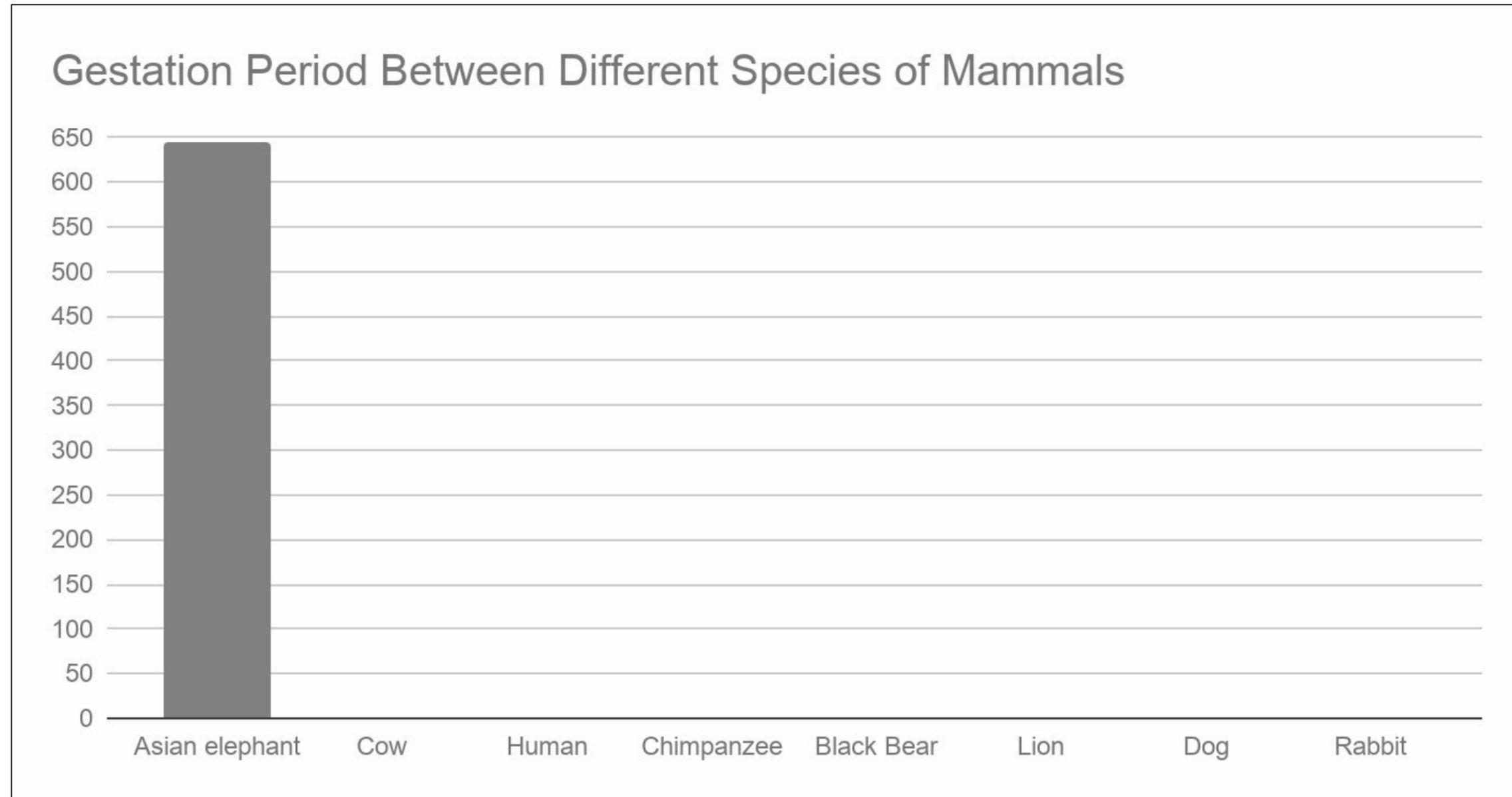
Are born prepared to continue their growth outside of their mothers' wombs. Examples include humans, elephants, dogs, and cats.



Display and interpret data:

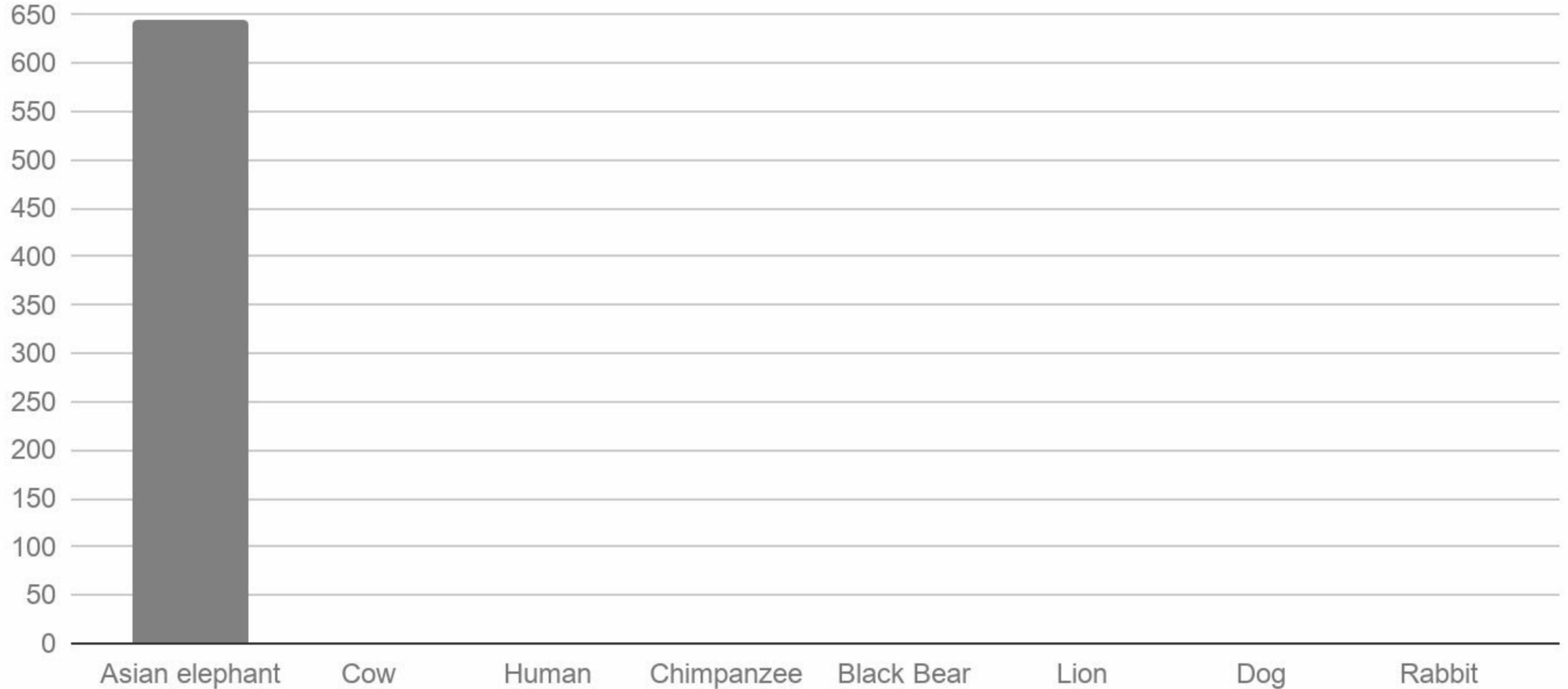
Use the table below to help you draw a bar graph comparing the gestation periods between different species of mammals.

Gestation period	
Species	Days
Rabbit	33
Cow	284
Asian elephant	645
Dog	63
Chimpanzee	227
Black bear	210
Lion	108
Human	266



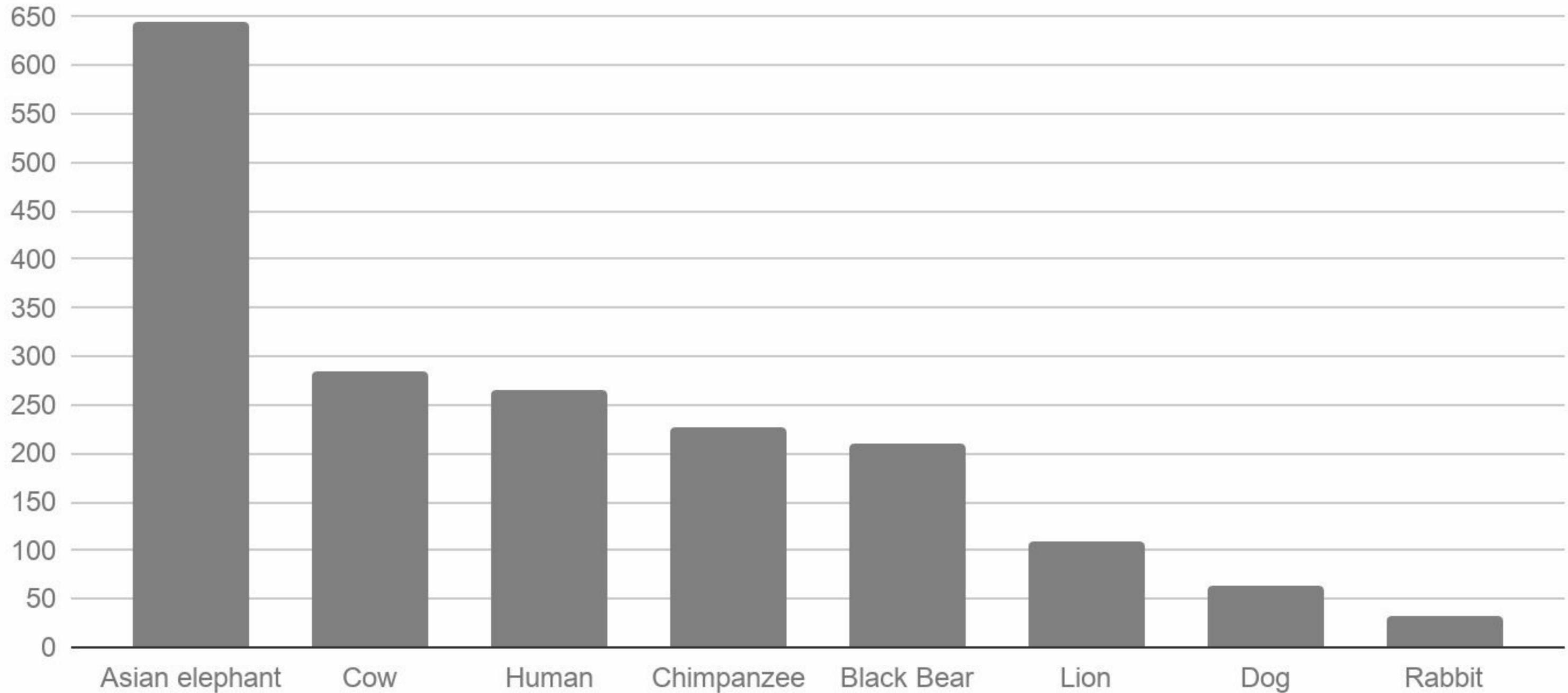
Display and interpret data:

Gestation Period Between Different Species of Mammals



Answers

Gestation Period Between Different Species of Mammals



Can you answer the question:

Is there a relationship between a mammal's size and its gestation period?

