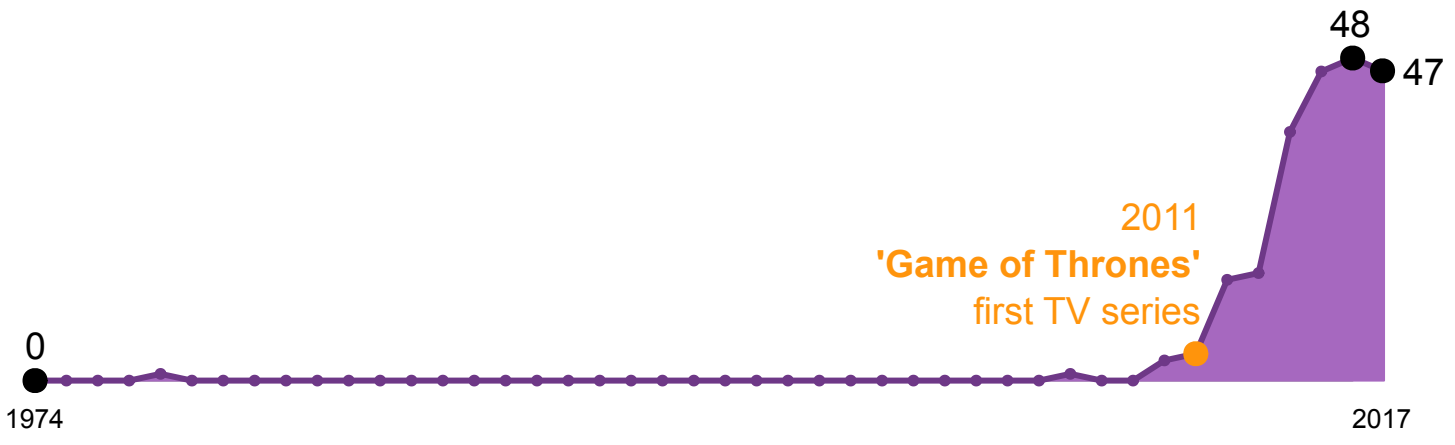


# How are new names created?

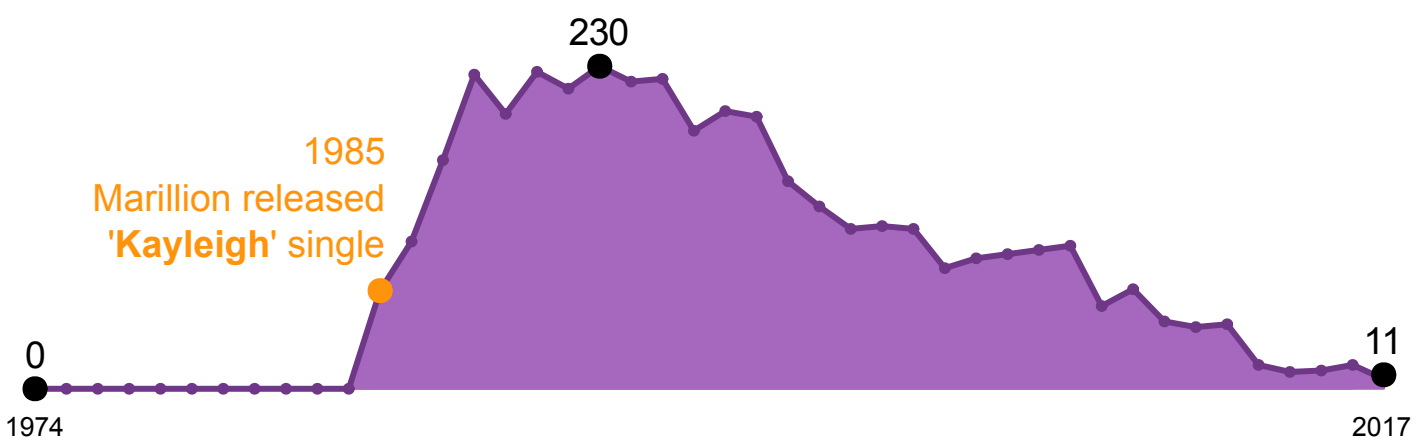
The inspiration for baby names comes from many different sources. Films, musicians, and writers appear to have influenced parents' choice of names for their babies.

## Girls called Arya



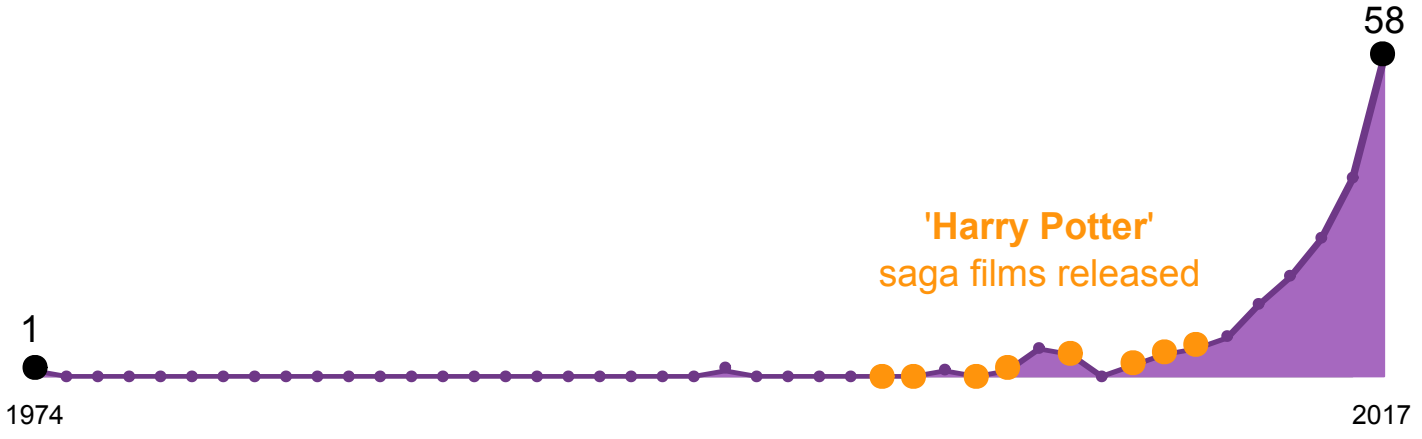
A girl has a name... Arya Stark from Game of Thrones is popular with parents — there were 47 baby Aryas in Scotland in 2017. The variant spelling 'Aria' is even more popular, with 254 babies in 2017 with that name.

## Girls called Kayleigh



Chalk hearts melting on a playground wall... Kayleigh surged from nowhere to 230 babies following Marillion's 1985 hit single, but the name's popularity has dropped recently, with only 11 baby Kayleighs in 2017.

## Girls called Luna



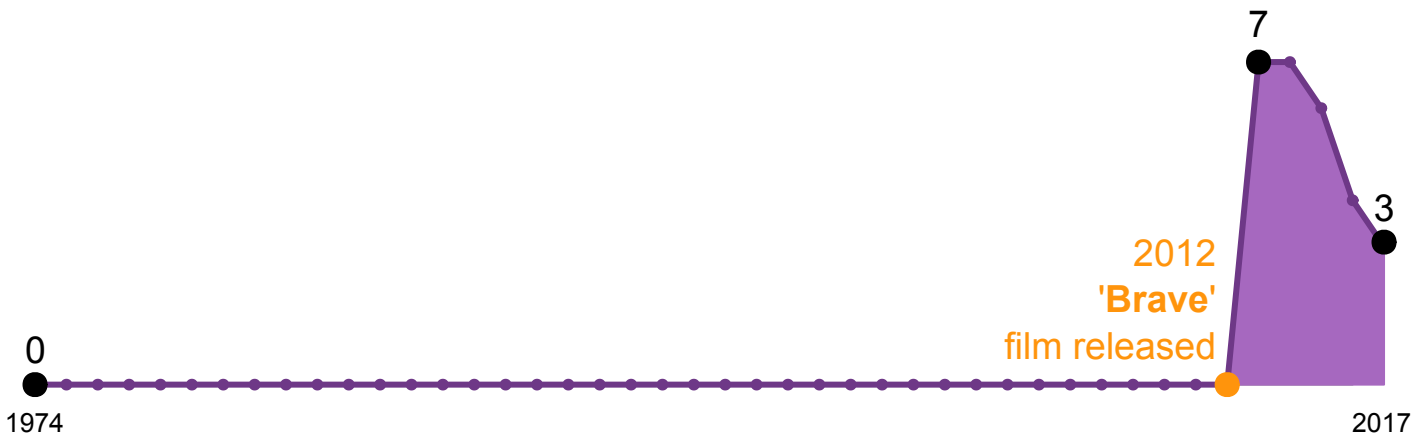
I suspect the Nargles are behind it... Luna has been rising ever since the release of Harry Potter & the Order of the Phoenix in 2007, featuring the first appearance by Luna Lovegood.

## Girls called Lyra



Just let them try to stop us! A slow but steady rise for starry girls' name Lyra following the publication of His Dark Materials, starring heroine Lyra Belacqua.

## Girls called Merida



Jings, Crivvens and Help Ma Boab! Straight as an arrow, the release of Brave in 2012 introduced Merida into the list of Scottish baby names for the first time.