

Trivia

In the 1830s, when it came to popular medicine, ketchup was all the rage. In 1834, it was sold as a cure for indigestion by an Ohio physician named John Cook.

The world's largest man-made oyster reef was created in Maryland.

The Eiffel Tower in Paris is made up of more than 7,300 tons and 1,063 feet of iron. But during the summer heat, the structure's metal expands, which means that it can grow more than six inches in height during the sizzling season.

While the White House was under construction during Washington's term, he never lived there. It wasn't until John Adams took office that a president lived there.

Tic Tac mints are named after the sound their container makes.

Beavers have transparent eyelids so they can see underwater.

With the job of NASA engineer on his resume, Lonnie G. Johnson would already be considered an impressive person by anyone's standards. However, not only did he help develop the U.S. Air Force's stealth bomber program, according to the Daily Press, but he also invented the Super Soaker water gun in the 1980s.

Hippos have the largest mouths of any animal on land.

A reindeer's eyes can change colors with the seasons.

The world's oldest surviving piano is at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. The instrument dates back to 1720, and was made by an Italian man named Bartolomeo Cristofori.

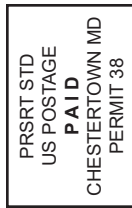
There's a basketball court above the Supreme Court. It's known as the Highest Court in the Land.

Minnesota has more shoreline than California, Florida, and Hawaii combined.



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Dates in History

1781 On March 13th, English astronomer William Herschel observed the seventh planet from the Sun, Uranus—first described by him as “a curious either nebulous star or perhaps a comet” and named for the father of the god Saturn.

1875 Indoor ice hockey made its public debut in Montreal, Quebec on March 3rd. After weeks of training at the Victoria Skating Rink with his friends, Montreal resident James Creighton advertised in the March 3 edition of the Montreal Gazette that “A game of hockey will be played in the Victoria Skating Rink this evening between two nines chosen from among the members.”

1889 The Eiffel Tower was dedicated on March 31st in Paris in a ceremony presided over by Gustave Eiffel, the tower’s designer, and attended by French Prime Minister Pierre Tirard, a handful of other dignitaries, and 200 construction workers. To honor the centenary of the French Revolution, the French government planned an international exposition and announced a design competition for a monument to be built on the Champ-de-Mars in central Paris.

1963 The U.S. federal prison on San Francisco Bay's Alcatraz Island, which had held some of the most dangerous civilian prisoners—including Al Capone and Robert Stroud, the “Birdman of Alcatraz”—was closed on March 21st.

1972 On March 2nd, Pioneer 10, the world’s first outer-planetary probe, was launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida, on a mission to Jupiter, the solar system’s largest planet.

On the Lighter Side

Did you hear about the guy who drank 8 Cokes? He burped 7Up.

Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit; wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.

Why did the birthday boy wrap himself in paper? He wanted to live in the present.

If money doesn't grow on trees, why do banks have branches?

A taxi passenger taps the driver on the shoulder to ask him a question. The driver screams, loses control of the car, nearly hits a bus, goes up on the footpath, and stops centimeters from a shop window. For a second, everything goes quiet in the cab, then the driver says, "Look mate, don't ever do that again. You scared the daylights out of me!" The passenger apologizes and says, "I didn't realize that a little tap would scare you so much." The driver replies, "Sorry, it's not really your fault. Today is my first day as a cab driver. I've been driving a hearse for the last 25 years."

Why are mountains not just funny? They are also hill areas.

What kind of pants do Mario and Luigi wear? Denim, denim, denim

I went down the street to a 24-hour grocery store. When I got there, the guy was locking the front door. I said, "Hey! The sign says you're open 24 hours." He said, "Yes, but not in a row!"

A teacher asked her students to use the word "beans" in a sentence. "My father grows beans," said one girl. "My mother cooks beans," said a boy. A third student spoke up, "We are all human beans."