

# Rainbow of Knowledge



by  
Roy G. Biv

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE #1

## FUN FACTS

\*Our eyes remain the same size from birth, but our nose & ears never stop growing.

\*A full moon is 9x brighter than a half moon.

\*Butterflies taste with their hind feet.

## SUPER SCIENCE

A man who has been a quadriplegic for the past six years has been able to move his fingers due to the implantation of a small chip in his brain. Researchers at Ohio State University were able to build a device that, once implanted, sends signals to a nearby terminal, which transmits that information to an electronic sleeve worn on the man's arm. The sleeve then uses wires to stimulate specific muscles to cause the movement of the fingers in real-time.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Dolphin

Dolphins utilize "signature whistles" to identify themselves to others. They use other dolphins' signature whistles as a way to call out their names.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS "Break the ice"

Before the days of trains or cars, port cities that thrived on trade suffered during the winter because frozen rivers prevented commercial ships from entering the city. Small ships known as "icebreakers" would rescue the icebound ships by breaking the ice and creating a path for them.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

The world record for most consecutive skips of a stone on water is 88, by Kurt Steiner (USA)

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

Placing a wooden spoon over the top of boiling water will stop it from boiling over by bursting the bubbles.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

Beethoven was one of the world's most famous composers and it's reported that he dipped his head in cold water before he composed.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

Joe DiMaggio is considered by many to be the world's greatest baseball player. In 1941, he recorded a hit in 56 consecutive games. "Joltin Joe's" record has only been seriously threatened a handful of times in the 71 years since. Pete Rose came the closest, getting his streak to 44 games back in 1978.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

"It is those who are crazy enough to change the world that do." Steve Jobs

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Potato Chips

After a customer repeatedly refused chef George Crum's French-fried potatoes for being too thick, Crum's spiteful attempt to make the potatoes too thin and crisp to eat with a fork backfired. The customer was delighted, and the new dish became a regular menu item.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 2

## FUN FACTS

- \*In the 1830's ketchup was sold as a form of medicine.
- \*It is estimated that millions of trees are accidentally planted by forgetful squirrels.
- \*Buckingham Palace has over 602 rooms.

## SUPER SCIENCE

The majority of the mass of a tree is created from the carbon dioxide absorbed from the air through the tree's leaves.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Jellyfish

Jellyfish can range from the size of a thimble or the eraser tip of pencil to approximately 8 feet in diameter and tentacles that reach 200 feet. That is as long as two blue whales.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS "Spill the beans"

In ancient Greece, voting to gain membership into some of their organizations was done via beans. White beans were dropped into a container representing those who favored the candidate and brown or black beans those who did not. The results were revealed only to the officials. On a few occasions a clumsy voter would knock over the jar and revealed all the beans! This is how the phrase came to refer to someone who reveals the truth or hidden secrets.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

The world's tallest building is the Burj Khalifa (Khalifa Tower) which measures just over 2,716 tall and has 160 stories. It is located in Dubai, United Arab Emirates

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

Keep bananas fresher by wrapping the stems in plastic wrap.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

George Harrison, the lead guitarist from the Beatles could play 26 different instruments.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHTS

Babe Didrikson Zaharias defied traditional femininity and proved that women can make exceptional athletes. As "The world's greatest woman athlete" Zaharias dominated tennis, track and field, basketball, golf and baseball. She won two gold medals and a silver medal in track and field at the 1932 Olympics.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

"Some people dance in the rain, others just get wet." Roger Miller

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Vacuum Cleaner

The original vacuum cleaner was so large that it would not fit inside a house and instead it was carried inside a large truck with hoses attached and running through the house's windows.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE #3

## FUN FACTS

- \*Everyone has a unique tongue print, just like fingerprints.
- \*About 6 million pounds of space dust settle on earth every year
- \*‘Odd’ and ‘Even’ are popular names for boys in Norway.

## SUPER SCIENCE

Stonehenge is over 5,000 years-old, scientist believe the erections and building continued for 1500 years. Many questions remain as to how the builders, who would have had only primitive tools and managed to haul all the massive stones weighing 25 tons to the site.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Bald Eagle

Bald Eagles have around 7,000 feathers. When they lose a feather from one wing they also lose a feather from the other wing too.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS “Giving someone the cold shoulder.”

After feasts in medieval England, the host would signal to his guests it was time to leave by giving them a slice of cold meat from the shoulder of the animal.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

The tallest free standing sculpture in the world is “Chief Crazy Horse”. It has been a work in progress for over 64 years already in South Dakota, USA. The sculpture is a memorial honoring all North American Indians, and will stand 641 feet long and 563 feet tall when completed.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

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## MUSICAL MOMENTS

If a person listens to upbeat rock or techno music, their heartbeat will involuntarily speed up. On the contrary it will slow down while listening to slower, calming music. Music is so influential that it can alter your heartbeat, pulse rate, blood pressure, decrease your muscle tension, and even affect your body move coordination!

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHTS

Reggie Jackson hit three straight home runs on three different pitchers in the 1977 World Series.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

“The mind is everything. What you think you become.” Buddha

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Whiskey

The term whiskey comes from the Gaelic words *uisge beatha*, which literally means “water of life”.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE #4

## FUN FACTS

- \*Your heart beats over 100,000 times a day.
- \*The average graphite pencil could draw a line 35 miles long.
- \*There is a hotel in Sweden built entirely out of ice, and it is rebuilt every year.

## SUPER SCIENCE

Mercury is the only metal that is liquid form at standard room temperature and pressure. This is because the electrons that spin around the nucleus of a mercury atom have weak links or bonds with other mercury atoms at room temperature, keeping the metal in a liquid state.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Walrus

A Walrus typically weighs between 1,320 and 3,300 lbs. They can be grow as long as 10.5 feet. At times walruses can sleep for 19 hours straight and they can sometimes stay awake for roughly 3.5 days while at sea.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS “Hold a candle to”

This phrase originates from when apprentices were expected to hold the candle up, so their more experienced colleagues could see what they were working on better.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

Japanese fashion designer Kazuhiro Watanabe holds the world record for the “Tallest Mohawk,” at 3 feet 8.6 inches.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

Running bacon under cold water will reduce shrinking by 50%

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

At the 2012 London Olympics, former Beatle Paul McCartney and other star performers who opened the ceremony were paid only 1 pound for their performances. The nominal fee was offered to make the contracts legally binding.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHTS

Wayne Gretzky holds many of the world’s hockey records, including most goals of all time with 894, as well most hat tricks in regular season with an incredible 50 hat tricks!

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

“Logic will get you from A to B. Imagination will get you everywhere else.”

Albert Einstein

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Curfew

The word curfew originates with the medieval practice of ringing a bell at a fixed time in the evening as an order to bank the hearths and prepare for sleep. It comes from the Anglo-Norman word covers, the equivalent of the Old French cuevre-fe, or cover fire.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE #5

## FUN FACTS

\*A mole can dig a tunnel 300 feet long in just one night.

\*Like humans, birds can learn music while they are still in the egg stage.

\**Hippopotomonstrosesquippedaliophobia* describes the fear of long words.

## SUPER SCIENCE

Carnivorous, bog-dwelling plants named Bladderworts can snap their traps shut in less than a millisecond. That is 100x faster than a Venus Flytrap.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Squirrel

Some squirrels can run up to 20 miles per hour and can jump up to 20 ft. Flying squirrels can jump up to 150 feet! Squirrels communicate with each other by making chirping sounds and by tail movements.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS “Hair of the dog that bit you.”

This term is often used to describe a hangover cure and is another medieval saying. It originates from the belief that once bitten by a rabid dog, the victim would only be cured by applying the same dog's hair to the wound.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

A tower created from Lego bricks was built with the help of a crane in front of Oslo City Hall, in Norway on April 24th, 2010. It measures 30.22 meters tall.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

Keep potatoes from budding by placing an apple in the bag with the potatoes.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

In 2016 Bob Dylan was awarded the “Nobel Prize for Literature”.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHTS

Rocky Marciano is a heavyweight boxer and the inspiration for the Hollywood blockbuster movie series. He boxed his way to 49 consecutive wins with 43 knockouts.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

“The only person you are destined to become is the person you decide to be.”

Ralph Waldo Emerson

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Escalator

Several escalator patents were filed, but the first working model was based on a patent filed in 1892 by Jesse W. Reno. It was first installed as a novelty ride at Coney Island in New York in 1896. Reno’s design initially transported people on a conveyor belt, rather than stairs.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE #6

## FUN FACTS

- \*Peanuts are one of the ingredients in making dynamite.
- \*There are an estimated 6,000 different languages spoken in the world today.
- \*Tigers not only have striped fur, but also striped skin underneath.

## SUPER SCIENCE

In 1883 hemp was made illegal in the United States. For nearly 3000 years hemp had been the world's largest agricultural crop, and the source from which the majority of fabric, soap, paper, medicines, and oils were produced.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Giraffe

Giraffe's are the world's tallest animals. They can be upwards of 19 ft tall and weigh up to 3,000 pounds. Scientists believe that giraffes have been on earth somewhere between 30-50 million years.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS "Fly by the seat of your pants."

This aviation term emerged in 1938 in US newspapers, to describe pilot Douglas Corrigan's flight from the USA to Ireland. His flight also included various stunts and tricks including standing on top of his plane on a flight.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

Chad Fell blew the largest bubblegum bubble at 20 inches at the Double Springs High School in Winston County, Alabama.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

To cool beer faster wrap your beer bottle in a couple of wet paper towels and put it in the freezer for 8 – 15 minutes.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

Black Sabbath's guitarist Tony Iommi introduced the "Rock n Roll Hand Symbol". The symbol has the two middle fingers and the thumb in the palm of the hand and the pinky and index finger pointing out. His Grandmother used to use it by pointing at her eyes with it and pointing back at him. He considered it giving someone the 'evil eye'.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHTS

The fastest man on the planet, Usain Bolt won three gold medals breaking three world records at the 2008 Olympic Games. He defended his title at 2012 Olympic Games winning gold again for all three Olympic racing categories.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted." Aesop

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Microwave

The microwave was invented after a researcher walked by a radar tube and the chocolate bar in his pocket melted.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE #7

## FUN FACTS

- \*Lightning strikes the Earth about 6,000 times per minute.
- \*There are more than 1 million ants in the world for every human being.
- \*Recycling one glass jar, saves enough energy to power a T.V for 3 hours.

## SUPER SCIENCE

In theoretical physics, a Kugelblitz is a concentration of energy so intense that it creates an event horizon, a boundary in spacetime where the massive gravitational pull lets nothing escape, not even information and a black hole results.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Reindeer

Reindeer shed their antlers in the winter and just like a human's fingerprint, no two reindeer antlers are exactly the same.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS "Beat around the bush"

Beat around the bush is a term used in bird hunting to rouse the prey out of the bushes, and into nets. Grouse hunters still use beaters today.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

In 2011 Iranian Grand Master Ehsan Ghaem-Maghami played 604 simultaneous chess games. It took him 24 hours and he won 580 of them.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

Is your butter rock hard from the fridge but you're too hungry to wait? Then just use a cheese grater to grate the butter into shredded pieces so it will melt faster.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

Due to noise ordinances in Europe, club owners have created "silent discos" where clubbers listen to music through headphones via FM-transmitter rather than use a live speaker system. The style of clubbing is popular for music festivals, when people want to party long after noise ordinances would allow.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHTS

In the 2008 Summer Olympics, Michael Phelps swam his way to 8 gold medals, the record for the most medals won at a single olympics. He also holds the title for most Olympic medals all time with a whopping 22.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

“Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn.”

Benjamin Franklin

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Mortgage

The word “Mortgage” comes from the Old French mort dead) and gage (pledge).



# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 8

## FUN FACTS

- \*A jellyfish is 95% water.
- \*The “Noisy Serpent” was the original name of the vacuum cleaner.
- \*Less than 1% of the Caribbean islands are inhabited.

## SUPER SCIENCE

The velvet belly lantern shark comes equipped with spines that glow like lightsabers. These appendages may be a visible warning to predators that may attempt to bite them.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Camel

A camel’s hump does not store water, it stores fat. Camels can then convert the fat to energy and water when needed. A camel has a coat that reflects the desert sun to keep them cool in hot temperatures and it will also work to keep them warm in cooler temperature.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS “A baker’s dozen”

Widely believed to originate from medieval times, when English bakers gave an extra loaf when selling a dozen in order to avoid being penalized for selling a short weight. Bakers could be fined or flogged for selling 'underweight' bread.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

The record for the most T-shirts worn at once is 227 and was achieved by Jef Van Dijck in Brecht, Belgium, on April 24, 2008.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

Put a bar or two of unopened soap in the drawers you use to store your clothes. Your clothes will always smell extra fresh and nice.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

A person who picked on Eminem in school sued him for his 1999 song ‘Brain Damage’. The judge dismissed the case while delivering the verdict as a rap.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHTS

Retired basketball star Michael Jordan scored 32,292 points, grabbed 6,672 total rebounds, and dished out 5,633 assists in his esteemed career.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

“How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.” Anne Frank

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Salmon

The name Salmon comes from the Latin word for salire which means “to jump”

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE #9

## FUN FACTS

\*The original name for the Butterfly was flutterby.

\*Leonardo Da Vinci invented many things, including scissors.

\*Fingernails grow 4x faster than toenails.

## SUPER SCIENCE

Lava is more than three times as dense as water, and well over 100,000 times as viscous.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Sloth

Sloths have a greenish color algae that grows on their fur that acts as camouflage in the trees.

They also have very slow digestive systems, taking up to 30 days to digest even just one leaf.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS “In the limelight”

Limelight is an intense white light widely used in 19th century theatres to illuminate the stage.

Actors who were the centre of attention on stage being said to be in the limelight.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

The beard of Sarwan Singh of Canada measured 2.33 meters (7 feet, 8 inches) from the end of his chin to the tip of the beard. It is currently holds the world record.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

Rolling your clothes when you pack for a trip will take up less space.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

In 1964 The Beatles met Bob Dylan at the Hotel Delmonico in New York on 28 August. He offered to roll a joint, and the Fab Four had to admit they had never partaken before. 'Until then we'd been scotch and Coke men,' McCartney would say later. 'It sort of changed that evening.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

Tiger Woods one of the most successful golfers in history, he started golfing at the age of two.

He went on to win the Masters Tournament 4 times, the U.S. Open 3 times, the PGA

Championship 4 times, and the British Open 3 times.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

“If you can dream it, you can do it.” Walt Disney

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Upper and lower case letters

Upper and lower case letters are named 'upper' and 'lower' from back in the time when all original print had to be set with individual letters. The 'upper case' letters were stored in a case on top, and below was a case that stored the smaller, 'lower case' letters.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 10

## FUN FACTS

- \*A woodpecker can peck 20 times per second.
- \*In every episode of Seinfeld there is a Superman symbol somewhere.
- \*A sneeze can travel up to 100 km an hour!

## SUPER SCIENCE

The average adult knows the names for about 10,000 things and most of them are distinguished by shape.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Penguin

The earliest known penguin fossil was found in a 61.6 million-year old Antarctic rock. This is evidence that they existed and outlived the mass extinction that killed the dinosaurs.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS “Flogging a dead horse”

The expression dates from the 17th century, a “dead horse” was a term for work which a person had been paid for in advance (and already spent).

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

The world record for most scoops of ice cream balanced on a single cone is an amazing 100 scoops of ice cream!

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

Buy a chalkboard eraser and keep it in the glove box of your car. When the windows fog, rub them with the eraser.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

Hans Zimmer, the composer/producer for over 150 movies, including The Lion King, Gladiator, all Pirates of the Caribbean movies, Pearl Harbor, Rush, Inception, the Dark Knight, etc.; had only 2 weeks of formal music education.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

Edson Arantes do Nascimento is one of the world’s greatest soccer players. He scored an amazing 1,281 goals in 1,363 matches and won three World Cups.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

“Remember no one can make you feel inferior without your consent.”

Eleanor Roosevelt

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Tea

Tea is said to have been discovered in 2737 BC by a Chinese emperor when some tea leaves accidentally blew into a pot of boiling water. The tea bag was later introduced in 1908 by Thomas Sullivan of New York.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 11

## FUN FACTS

- \*Coca-Cola would be green if artificial colouring wasn't added to it.
- \*Every human originally spent about half an hour as a single cell organism.
- \*Honey is the only food that does not spoil.

## SUPER SCIENCE

At over 2000 kilometers long, The Great Barrier Reef is the largest living structure on Earth. The Great Barrier Reef is an interlinked system of about 3000 reefs and 900 coral islands, divided by narrow passages, just beneath the surface of the Coral Sea.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Hippopotamus

Hippo's are the 3rd largest land mammal, they can be as long as 12 ft. and up to 5 ft. tall. They can weigh upwards of 3.5 tonnes but survive on a vegetarian diet of mostly grass, eating up to 150 pounds of it in just one day!

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS "Saved by the bell"

A boxing slang from the late 19th century. A boxer who is in danger of losing a bout can be 'saved' from defeat by the bell that marks the end of a single round.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

Jordan Romero, a 13-year-old boy from California, is officially the youngest person to ever climb Mount Everest.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

To heat up leftovers such as pasta, create a hole in the center and it will heat evenly.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

Musician Beck's last album was released only in sheet music form, for others to interpret and replicate. No CD's, no digital download, just sheet music.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

Martina Navratilova is one of the world's top tennis players. She won 18 Grand Slam singles titles, and holds the all-time record of 31 major women's doubles titles. She also reached the Wimbledon finals 12 times in 8 years.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

"Whatever you are, be a good one." Abraham Lincoln

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Clue

The word "clue" dates back to Greek mythology. Theseus entered the Labyrinth to kill the minotaur (a half-man, half-bull), he unraveled a "clew" a ball of string behind him, so he could find his way back.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 12

## FUN FACTS

\*Dark roast coffee actually has less caffeine than light roasts

\* M&M stands for “Mars and Murrie”, which are the founders’ last names.

\*1 in 5,000 North Atlantic lobsters are born bright blue.

## SUPER SCIENCE

On average, the human body contains 250 grams of salt at any time, enough to fill between 3 and 4 salt shakers.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Whale Shark

Whale sharks are the biggest fish on our planet. They can be up to 46 feet long and can weigh up to 12 tons (24,000lbs) that is bigger than a school bus.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS “Keep Your Shirt On”

This phrase originated from when shirts were very expensive so men would remove them before fighting in order to prevent damage.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

Strom Thurmond holds the record for the longest filibuster by a lone senator, at 24 hours and 18 minutes. He was opposing the Civil Rights Act of 1957. He also later opposed ending segregation.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

A toothbrush is a handy cleaning utensil to get into tough places around the house.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

The first music streaming service started in 1897. Users in New York could pick up their phones and connect to the Telharmonium, a central hub that would pipe music being played live by two musicians playing 24 hours a day.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

The record for longest frisbee throw was set in 2003 by Erin Hemmings it still stands at an astonishing 1,333 feet, more than a quarter mile.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

I learned a long time ago that reality was much weirder than anyone's imagination”

Hunter S. Thompson

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Huddle

The football huddle was invented at Gallaudet University, an all-deaf school, to prevent opposing teams from seeing their signs.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 13

## FUN FACTS

- \*A moose can dive underwater down to nearly 20 feet when in search of food.
- \*90% big pharmaceutical companies spend more on marketing than research.
- \*Nikola Tesla's statue in Silicon Valley provides a free wi-fi signal.

## SUPER SCIENCE

The "sensitive plant" or Mimosa pudica, has a defensive mechanism where it reflexively folds itself in response to heating, touching, hitting, and other stimuli.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Leopard

The color of a leopard's fur coat often depends on the habitat in which they live, their coat offers them both protection and assistance in hunting. Arabian leopards are often a deep golden color matching their desert environment. Snow leopards are smokey gray with a white belly, matching their snowy mountainous habitat.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS "Wouldn't give me the time of day."

An expression from the town of Chester in England right on the border with Wales. There is a clock tower with three clocks on it, pointing north, east and west, but no clock facing South (Wales). This was to send a message that the English did not like the Welsh.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

The longest marathon skipping rope is 33 hours 20 minutes and was achieved by Joey Motsay (USA) at Positive Stress Workout in Greensboro, North Carolina, USA, on 4-5 December 2009.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

For a homemade air freshener combine 3 tablespoons of fabric softener, 3 cups of water and one tablespoon of baking soda in an empty spray bottle.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

Queen guitarist Brian May built his primary guitar, the "Red Special", when he was sixteen. It contains parts from a motorbike, bicycle, knitting needle, and the wood is from an 18th century fireplace mantel.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

Frank Morris of the CFL has won the Grey Cup championship ring 13 times during his career as a player, a coach and a team executive.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

"One's destination is never a place but rather a new way of looking at things"

Henry Miller

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: XXX

The XXX on cartoon jugs of alcohol originally denoted three times distilled, resulting in almost pure alcohol content

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 14

## FUN FACTS

\*Dragonflies can see in all directions at once.

\*Vegemite is leftover concentrated yeast mixture from alcohol barrels.

\*80% of the close door buttons on elevators aren't even actively hooked up.

## SUPER SCIENCE

In the 1850's the entire city of Chicago was raised 5-10 feet with hydraulic jacks to improve drainage and make room for water and sewer lines, in response to outbreaks of typhoid fever and cholera.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Porcupine

The name porcupine means 'one who rises up in anger'. A porcupine has an estimated 30,000 quills covering their entire body, except for their face and tail to provide protection from predators.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS "In the buff"

A buff-coat was a light brown leather tunic worn by English soldiers up until the 17th century. The original meaning of 'in the buff' was simply to be wearing such a coat. Later on, 'in the buff' was used to mean naked, due to the colour of the skin, which is similar to the color of the buff-coat

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

The Guinness World Record for longest note ever recorded on a saxophone, at 45 minutes and 47 seconds, is held by Kenny G.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

A "dash" is 1/8 of a teaspoon, a "pinch" is 1/16 of a teaspoon, and a "smidgen" is 1/32 of a teaspoon

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

The Grateful Dead hired a "soundman" and chemist, Owsley Stanley to mass-produce LSD for the band.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

In 5 years, Jahangir Khan, a squash player from Pakistan played 555 consecutive squash matches, maintaining an unbeaten run the entire time. During this winning streak, he won the International Squash Players Association Championship, without losing a single point.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

"All life is an experiment. The more experiments you make, the better"

Ralph Waldo Emerson

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Canadian Tuxedo

Bing Crosby was once rejected from a club in Vancouver for wearing only denim. When Levi's heard they made him a denim tuxedo jacket, originating the term "Canadian Tuxedo."

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 15

## FUN FACTS

- \*Every US president with a beard has been a Republican party member.
- \*The electricity needed to power an iPhone for a year costs only \$0.47.
- \*British tanks are required to have a tea brewing station.

## SUPER SCIENCE

The hippocampus is the part of your brain that plays an important role in the consolidation of information from short-term memory to long-term memory and also spatial navigation.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Dog

Dogs have a remarkable sense of smell, they are capable of differentiating odors in concentrations nearly 100 million times lower than humans can. They also have superior hearing than humans, capable of hearing sounds at four times the distance.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS “In my bad books”

In the Middle Ages, 'one's books' meant 'one's reckoning or cognizance'. So to be 'out of someone's books' meant you were no longer part of their life or of interest to them.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

A cheetah named Sarah holds the record for the fastest 100-meter sprint in the world with 5.95 seconds.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

To hold a nail while hammering, use a clothespin to hold the nail instead of your fingers.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

Keith Richards heard the riff! to “(I Can’t Get No) Satisfaction” in a dream. He woke up, played the riff on a tape recorder and mumbled “I can’t get no satisfaction” and went back to sleep.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

On October 8, 1956, Don Larsen pitched a perfect game in Game 5 of the World Series against the Brooklyn Dodgers. Larsen's perfect game was the only no-hitter of any type in postseason history until Roy Halladay threw a no-hitter in 2010.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

“Be yourself; everyone else is already taken.” Oscar Wilde

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Mouthwash

Listerine coined the term “halitosis” in order to boost the sales of their mouthwash by telling people that they had a health condition. This has historically been one of commercial medicalization most successful stories.



# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE #16

## FUN FACTS

- \*There are more barrels of bourbon in Kentucky than people.
- \*The cardboard box was inducted into the “National Toy Hall of Fame” in 2005
- \*The word “utopia” literally means “not a place.”

## SUPER SCIENCE

Benjamin Franklin never patented any of his inventions such as electricity, the odometer or swim fins. He reasoned that “we enjoy great advantages from the inventions of others,” and that “we should be glad of an opportunity to serve others by any invention of ours; and this we should do freely and generously.”

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Elephant

The elephant’s trunk is able to sense the size, shape and temperature of an object. An elephant uses its trunk to lift food and suck up water then pour it into its mouth. Their trunks also act as a snorkel when they swim.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS “Mad as a hatter”

In the 19th century mercury was used to be used in the making of hats. This was known to have affected the nervous systems of hatters, causing them to tremble and appear insane. Mercury poisoning is still known today as 'Mad Hatter's disease'.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

The world record for most baby carrots held in one hand is 100 carrots, by basketball star Shaquille O'Neal on ‘Record Setters’.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

Bread tags make the perfect-sized cord labels.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

Austrian musical group called the Das Erste Wiener Gemüseeorchester uses instruments made entirely from vegetables and after the show they use the vegetables to make soup.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

In 1924, Gertrude Ederle won 3 Olympic medals for swimming. In 1926 she became the first woman to swim the English Channel in just over 14 hours, breaking the previous record by almost 2 hours.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

“Everybody has a plan, until they get punched in the face” Mike Tyson

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Wonka Bar

Willy Wonka and The Chocolate Factory was financed by the Quaker Oats company to sell their real-life Wonka Bar. The bar was taken off shelves after a few months due to problems with its formula, but the film went on to become a cult classic.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE #17

## FUN FACTS

- \*The Beastie Boys used to open for themselves in disguise as a heavy metal band.
- \*Half the world's wealth is held by less than 1% of the population.
- \*Budapest was once two cities, Buda and Pest. They merged in 1873.

## SUPER SCIENCE

Van Gogh's "Starry Night" was painted while he was in a mental institution in 1889. His painting perfectly captured the scientific phenomenon known as "turbulence" to mathematical precision despite it not being explained by physics until 1940's.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Peregrine Falcon

Peregrine falcons can fly up to 320 miles per hour. They use their long, pointed wings and long narrow tails to make quick, powerful wing beats allowing them to travel at high speeds.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS "All the way to the bank"

The phrase 'all the way to the bank' was popularized by Liberace. When a journalist implied Liberace was gay, he sent him a telegram saying "What you said hurt me very much. I cried all the way to the bank." It became his catchphrase after repeating it to reporters while suing the newspaper .

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

Sam Wakeling holds the current Guinness World Record for total unicycle distance in 24 hours with 453.6km.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

Microwave your own popcorn in a plain brown paper bag. Not only is it cheaper, it's healthier as well.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

Seat cushions at the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles are designed to have the same absorption properties as the average person so that the hall has the same acoustics when empty or full.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

Shaun White is a professional snowboarder who won two olympic gold medals and holds the X-Games records for gold medals and highest overall medal count. He the first person to score a perfect 100 in the men's snowboard superpipe event at the winter X games.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

"I am wise for I know nothing." Socrates

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Avocado

The word "Avocado" comes from an Aztec language called Nahuatl. The original word "Ahuacatl" means testicles, and likely refers to their similar appearance.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 18

## FUN FACTS

- \*The Spanish national anthem has no words.
- \*The woolly mammoth was still around when the pyramids were being built.
- \*There are more than 10,000 varieties of tomatoes.

## SUPER SCIENCE

There are 31,536,000 seconds in a year. An easy way to remember this is  $\pi \times 10$  million. The resulting number is accurate to better than 0.5%.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Tiger

Tigers are the biggest cats in the world. The siberian tiger is the biggest of all subspecies. It can be up to 11 feet in length and weigh up to 660 pounds. Tiger's long tail provides balance and it can also be used for communication.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS "Key to the city"

The act of "giving the key to the city" is a continuation of a medieval practice. These cities would be locked at night but someone given the key could come and go as they please as an honor for something great done for the city.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

An amazing 1,052 Rutgers students from New Jersey dressed as Waldo from the children's book series "Where's Waldo?"

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

To amplify the music speakers on your phone, place it inside a glass cup.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

In 1989, the U.S. Military played AC/DC's music very loudly at the compound of General Noriega for two days non stop. The dictator eventually surrendered.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

Lance Armstrong has won 1st place 7 times in the Tour de France. After winning a battle with cancer in 1997 he founded Lance Armstrong Foundation, which is now LIVESTRONG Foundation and it has raised over \$500 million to support cancer survivors and served 2.5 million people affected by cancer.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

"You don't stop playing because you get old, you get old because you stop playing."

George Bernard Shaw

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Blue Jeans

Created in January (known as Genoa today) and shortened to the term "jean." They remained a natural shade for years until one day a batch was dyed blue and turned over to tailors. For many years the pants made from this fabric were for men only, until women wearing pants became socially acceptable around WWII.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE #19

## FUN FACTS

- \*Pinocchio is Italian for “pine head.”
- \*Mel Blanc, who played the voice of Bugs Bunny was allergic to carrots.
- \*The Sahara desert expands at about 1 km per month.

## SUPER SCIENCE

Stegosaurus’ roamed western North America about 150 million years ago and the Tyrannosaurus did not evolve until about 67 million years ago.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: African Wild Dogs

The scientific name for the African Wild dog means “painted wolf. No two wild dogs have the same markings, which makes them easily identifiable as individuals. They have a playful ceremony that bonds them for a common purpose and initiates each hunt. They start circulating among the other pack members, vocalizing and touching until they get excited and are ready to go hunting.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS “Wet your whistle”

Many years ago, pub frequenters had a whistle baked into the rim or handle of their ceramic mugs. When they needed a refill, they used the whistle to get some service.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

Aficion Chocolate built a nearly 13-foot-5-inch chocolate structure that weighed in at 22,458 pounds to create the heaviest chocolate sculpture of all time.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

Adding a tsp. of baking soda to water when boiling eggs will help the shell peel easier.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

There is a Swedish Speed Metal band called “Sabaton” that teaches history through its music, including an album devoted to teaching about World War 2.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

Being born without a right hand didn’t stop Jim Abbott from becoming a MLB pitcher. The ex-California Angels pitcher was still able to win 87 games in his 11-year big league career.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

“Walking with a friend in the dark is better than walking alone in the light.” Helen Keller

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Halloween Costumes

Celtic people believed that spirits would walk the earth during the festival of Samhain, which marked the transition to the new year, at the end of the harvest and beginning of the winter. To fake out ghosts, people would wear disguises so they would be mistaken for spirits themselves and left alone.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 20

## FUN FACTS

- \*A spider has transparent blood.
- \*An ounce of chocolate contains about 20 mg of caffeine.
- \*TIP is originally an acronym for "To Insure Promptness."

## SUPER SCIENCE

The path followed by satellites in orbit can either be circular or elliptical. A satellite in Earth's orbit can be orbiting at a distance up to 1000 km above the Earth's surface.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Orangutans

Orangutans are very intelligent animals, like humans they use tools to help them. They use sticks to check depth of the water before entering, branches to swat away mosquitoes and leaves to protect their heads from sun and rain.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS "Break The Ice"

All cities that grew as a result of being on rivers (for trade) suffered during bitter cold times when the river froze. Even large ships got stuck, making them icebound for weeks. Little small sturdy ships known as "icebreakers" were developed to precede the ships breaking ice and clearing a path.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

The largest stadium in the world is the Maracana Stadium in Rio de Janeiro. The huge stadium can hold a grand total of 199,000 people.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

Use a dry strand of spaghetti to light hard-to-reach candles.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

Jon Bon Jovi has a community restaurant that has no prices listed on the menu. You pay for it if you can afford to or volunteer in the kitchen in exchange for meals.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

Billie Jean King was one of the world's top tennis players winning six Wimbledon singles championships, as well as advocates for women's equality in sports. She launched many organizations for women athletes including a sports magazine, a sports foundation and a professional women's tour.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

"My name is nothing, and my age means even less." Bob Dylan

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Groggy

In 1740, British Admiral Vernon's nickname was "Old Grogam" for the cloak of program which he wore. He ordered that the sailors' daily ration of rum be diluted with water. The men called the mixture "grog" and a sailor who drank too much grog was "groggy".

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 21

## FUN FACTS

\*60% of Earth's lakes are in Canada.

\*Tommy Lee Jones and AL Gore were freshman roommates at Harvard.

\*The most common name in the world is Mohammed.

## SUPER SCIENCE

One in every 30 babies born in the U.S. is a twin – an astounding increase over the last three decades. In 1980, only 1 in every 53 babies was a twin.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Baboon

Baboons have been observed to kidnap and raise feral dogs as pets. The dogs protect the baboons from other feral dogs and baboons care for the dogs including grooming them, an act only done for those considered as family.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS “Close, but no cigar.”

Carnivals used to give out cigars as prizes, so almost winning would get you close to achieving a cigar, but not quite. The phrase evolved in meaning and now refers to coming close to a goal but falling short.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

The largest hailstone ever recorded was 17.5 inches in diameter - bigger than a basketball.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

To prevent young children from rolling out of bed at night, place a pool noodle at the edge of the bed under the fitted sheet.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

The airplane Buddy Holly died in was called "American Pie." It is the inspiration behind the tribute song by of the same title by Don McLean.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

Martial artist Yuki Nakai beat 2 fighters, twice his size, in a tournament, even after an illegal eye gouge that left him blind in one eye. He developed complete blindness in that eye, yet kept it secret for years in order to protect the reputation of martial arts.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

“Great things are done by a series of small things brought together.” Vincent Van Gogh

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: The Jack

Each king in a deck of playing cards represents a great king from history. Spades represents David a biblical king of Israel, clubs represents Alexander the Great, hearts represent french King Charlemagne & diamonds represent Julius Caesar.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 22

## FUN FACTS

- \*Most American car horns honk in the key of F.
- \*Singaporean Citizens above 21 organs are automatically donated upon death
- \*Scientists have tracked butterflies travelling distances over 3,000 miles.

## SUPER SCIENCE

North America is windy. If the U.S. and Canada had enough wind turbines, they could produce all the electricity they need, and then some, from wind alone. The same is true of solar energy, with even bigger power surpluses.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Pig

Pigs are not always clean animals. The pig's reputation as a filthy animal comes from its habit of rolling in mud to cool off. Pigs that live in cool, covered environments stay very clean. Pigs are among the smartest of all domesticated animals and are even smarter than dogs.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS "Once in a blue moon"

A blue moon is the second full moon in a single calendar month, and it's rare when it occurs. The phrase "once in a blue moon" is used colloquially to mean something that doesn't happen very often.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

Twins Amy and Katie Jones-Elliott set a new Guinness World Record for the longest interval between the births of twins. The first of the twins, Amy, was born on June 1, 2012, four months premature, Katie was born 87 days later.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

A dry tea bag can work as a quick deodorizer in your shoes or the trunk of a car.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

Although identified with Scotland, bagpipes are actually a very ancient instrument, introduced into the British Isles by the Romans.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

San Diego has signed former left-hander Matt LaChappa to a minor league deal each year since 1996, when LaChappa suffered a heart attack while warming up in the bullpen for a Class-A game. He was only 20 at the time. LaChappa, now 39, is now a wheelchair user, and his contract with the Padres gives him access to health insurance.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

"Your beliefs don't make you a better person, your behavior does." Sukhraj S. Dhillon

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Ferris Wheel

The Ferris Wheel, moving walkway, Pabst Blue Ribbon, pressed penny souvenirs, Juicy Fruit gum, and Aunt Jemima pancake mix were all unveiled at the 1893 Chicago World Fair

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 23

## FUN FACTS

- \*Chipotle peppers are just smoke-dried jalapeños.
- \*The world's largest jellyfish, the lion's mane, is longer than a blue whale.
- \*Metallica was the first band to play on all 7 continents.

## SUPER SCIENCE

Galaxies have no definite "edges." Instead galaxies have long outskirts of dark matter that extend to their nearby galaxies; the intergalactic space is not empty but filled with dark matter.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Panda

There are only about 1,000 giant pandas in the wild. Pandas eat almost nothing but bamboo shoots and leaves. Occasionally they eat other vegetation, fish, or small animals, but bamboo accounts for 99% of their diets.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS "Balls to the wall"

The phrase "balls to the wall" comes from aviation. Ball-shaped handles controlled the throttle and fuel, and putting these handles closer to the wall resulted in the fastest possible speed.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

The Millau Viaduct in France the highest bridge in the world. At almost 1,000 feet high it towers over the Eiffel Tower. It is over 8,000 feet long and offers amazing views of the city, sometimes sitting above the cloud line.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

The bigger the naval on the orange the sweeter it will taste.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

John Newton who is most famous for writing "Amazing Grace," spent the early part of his life as a sailor, then captain, on several slaving ships before converting to a life of evangelical Christianity. Late in life he became an abolitionist, expressing regret that it had taken him so long to do so.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

Seattle fans were cheering so loudly and jumping in celebration after Marshawn Lynch's 67 yard run in which he broke 9 tackles and scored the winning run that it registered earthquake activity on many nearby instruments.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

"When the going gets weird, the weird turn pro." Hunter S. Thompson

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Football

The term "football" did not originally have anything to do with kicking a ball with your feet, but instead meant that the game was played on foot as opposed to on a horse, and hence was a game for "commoners."



# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 24

## FUN FACTS

- \*Stephen Hawking was born exactly 300 years after Galileo died.
- \*The melody for the "A-B-C" song is the same as "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star."
- \*1 in 8 Americans has worked at a McDonalds restaurant.

## SUPER SCIENCE

Migrating birds might "see" Earth's magnetic field using quantum entanglement. Birds appear navigate using Earth's magnetic field, which they might see as a pattern of colours thanks to quantum entanglement.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Hummingbirds

Hummingbirds beat their wings 60-80 times per second. They have such tiny builds they can weigh even less than a penny. The fact that they have such small wings means that they have to work overtime to keep themselves afloat.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS “Mind your p’s and q’s.”

In the 17th century, pubs served beer in pints and quarts. If a patron was getting unruly, the bartender might warn them to mind their p’s and q’s. Now the term simply means to mind your manners.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

The world’s deepest postbox is in Susami Bay in Japan. It’s 10 metres underwater.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

A rule of thumb for the care of houseplants is the lighter the leaf the more light it needs, and the thinner the leaf the more water it needs.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

“Stayin’ Alive” by Bee Gees was used in a study to train medical staff to perform CPR. The song has close to 104 beats per minute, and 100-120 chest compressions per minute are recommended by the British Heart Foundation.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

African-American athlete Jesse Owens broke records and won several gold medals, shattering Hitler’s aim to use the 1936 Games as an example of the “new Aryan man.” Owens later befriended his German competitor in the long jump, Luz Long, and the pair's lap of honor became a symbol of the triumph of sportsmanship over Nazi ideology.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

“The trouble is you think you have time.” Buddha

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: “stan”

The reason the name of so many south and central Asian countries end in “stan” is because it is an ancient meaning “land of” or “homeland.”

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 25

## FUN FACTS

- \*The average lifespan of a major league baseball is 7 pitches.
- \*Strands of spider web are stronger than steel wire of the same thickness.
- \*Each month, there is at least one report of UFOs from each province in Canada.

## SUPER SCIENCE

The Wright Brothers achieved flight in a plane that cost roughly \$1,000 to build. In the race to fly, they beat Samuel Pierpont Langley, Secretary of the Smithsonian, who failed to achieve a successful flight, despite having \$50,000 of government funding put toward his attempts.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Chameleon

Chameleon's ability to change colors most often used for camouflage to protect it from its predators. Color change is also used to control body temperature and to communicate with other chameleons.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS "Goodnight, sleep tight."

Simply meaning to sleep well, the phrase "sleep tight" dates from the time when mattresses were supported by ropes. These ropes needed to be pulled tight to provide a stable mattress and a good night's rest

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

At 101, Larry Lewis ran the 100 yard dash in 17.8 seconds setting a new world record for runners 100 years old or older.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

If your out of AA batteries, You can use AAA battery by filling the gap on the positive side with a small wad of tin foil.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

In 2013, Kid Rock took a pay cut that cost him around \$50,000 to \$100,000 per night during his tour to keep ticket prices at \$20 and a 12 ounce beer at \$4 each.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

English doctor Ludwig Guttmann founded the International Wheelchair Games to help rehabilitate wounded veterans of World War II. Using sports therapy, he invited wheelchair athletes to compete, and the event eventually became the modern Paralympic Games.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

"I don't want to earn my living, I want to live." Oscar Wilde

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Red Barns

Barns traditionally are red colored because farmers used to add rust to linseed oil to prevent fungi, mold, and moss growth.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 26

## FUN FACTS

\*If the sun were hollow, you could fit a million Earths inside it.

\*There are 350 slices of pizza sold every second in America

\*Barbie's full name is Barbara Millicent Roberts

## SUPER SCIENCE

Western Australia's Lake Hillier has a naturally-occurring pink hue. While scientists aren't entirely sure why this is, it's likely that it has to do with the carotenoid pigments produced by microalgae in the water.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: OTTER

Otters like to keep close company, even in the water. Not only do otters link arms to avoid floating away from one another, the Asian small-clawed otter mates for life.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS "Bite the bullet"

In the olden days, when doctors were short on anesthesia or time during a battle, they would ask the patient to bite down on a bullet to distract from the pain.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

In 2016, Belgian native Mathias Willemijns set a new world record for growing the biggest pumpkin. The massive pumpkin weighed in at 2624.6 pounds, that's more than a sports car!

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

Freeze grapes to chill white wine without watering it down.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

In addition to co writing many famous songs, Barry Manilow has authored a number of famous jingles. This includes the iconic jingle "I am stuck on Band-Aid brand 'cause Band-Aid's stuck on me."

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

Floyd Mayweather Jr. finished his professional boxing career in 2017 with 50 wins and 0 losses.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

"All of life is peaks and valleys. Don't let the peaks get too high and the valleys too low."

John Wooden

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Slinky

The slinky was invented by accident. Inventor Richard James, a naval engineer, was trying to create a spring that could help stabilize equipment on boats in choppy waters. However, his spring's ability to move seemingly on its own proved more interesting, and became the prototype for the Slinky in 1943.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 27

## FUN FACTS

- \*There are six million parts in the Boeing 747-400.
- \*The famous Casanova was a librarian for many years before he died.
- \*China has more English speaking people than the United States.

## SUPER SCIENCE

At least half of Earth's Oxygen comes from the ocean, not trees. Tiny aquatic plants called phytoplankton live near the surface of the water, drift with the currents, and generally do what plants do - make oxygen as a byproduct of taking in sunlight and carbon dioxide.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Alligator

The word "alligator" comes from the Spanish word "el lagarto," which means "the lizard." The american alligator and dinosaurs are cousins. Both alligators and dinosaurs descended from a common ancestor more than 200 million years ago.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS “Three sheets to the wind.”

Sailors had a lot of terms for being drunk and they all related to the ship. The sheets in question were actually the ropes that held down the sails, so if all three ropes were loose, the sails would billow about like a drunken sailor.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

Paul Hunn holds the record for the loudest burp, which was 118.1 decibels, which is as loud as a chainsaw.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

Rub a walnut on damaged wooden furniture to cover up dings.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

When Pearl Jam released their cover of ‘Last Kiss’ as a single, they decided all proceeds would go to Kosovo War refugees. The song raised ten million dollars.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

After being diagnosed with testicular cancer and told he had eight months to live, Bob Champion made a miraculous recovery and went on to win the Grand National on Aldaniti, a horse that had recovered from three leg breaks. It was arguably the most emotional win in British horse racing history.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

“If you don’t start somewhere, you are going to go nowhere.” Bob Marley

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: The Drive Thru

McDonalds’ added a drive-thru in 1975 to accommodate soldiers who were not allowed to get out of their cars while wearing their fatigues.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 28

## FUN FACTS

- \*Crayola is a French word that means "Oily chalk."
- \*More people are killed by donkeys annually than are killed in plane crashes.
- \*Over 200 varieties of watermelons are grown in the U.S.

## SUPER SCIENCE

The spiral shapes of sunflowers follow a Fibonacci sequence: 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8... each number is the sum of the last two. This maximises the sunlight received by each floret.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Parrot

Parrots are supposed to be one of the most intelligent birds. They not only speak but associate to situations. Scientists believe they have logic of four year old. Parrots are among very few animals who can feel the music. They can feel the beat of the music and move with it.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS “Barking up the wrong tree”

This refers to hunting dogs that may have chased their prey up a tree. The dogs bark, assuming that the prey is still in the tree, when the prey is no longer there.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

Dubai currently boasts the tallest all residential building. Standing a staggering 1,358 ft, the Princess Tower has been the world's tallest residential building since it was completed in 2012.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

Closing one eye when turning the lights on or off helps your eyes adjust to a change of lighting faster.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

There is a band called ‘NænøçÿbbĈerġ VbëřřHōlōkäävsƦ’ (pronounced ‘Nanocyborg Uberholocaust’) originating from Antarctica. It was formed by two scientists who happened to have similar tastes in music. Their first album, ‘The Ultimate Fate of the Universe’, was recorded at the exact south pole.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

Frances Chichester’s became the first man to sail single-handedly around the world in 1967. He arrived back in Plymouth after nine months and one day of sailing and was knighted soon afterwards for his achievement.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

“It took me four years to paint like Raphael, and a lifetime to paint like a child.”

Pablo Picasso

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Can Tab

Up until 1959 beer came in cans that required a can opener. A mechanical engineer named Ermal Cleon Frazee patented the world’s first practical pull-top after struggling to use the bumper of his car to open a can at a picnic at which he had forgotten to bring his can opener.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 29

## FUN FACTS

- \*A violin actually contains 70 separate pieces of wood.
- \*There are no two zebras who have stripes that are exactly the same.
- \*Black pepper is the most popular spice in the world

## SUPER SCIENCE

The Internet is the fastest-growing communications tool ever. It took radio broadcasters 38 years to reach an audience of 50 million, television 13 years, and the Internet just 4 years.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Cheetah

The cheetah is the fastest land animal in the world, reaching speeds of up to 70mph. They can accelerate from 0 to 62mph in just 3 seconds. Cheetahs are the only big cat that can turn in mid-air while sprinting using their tail to steer, like a rudder for a boat.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS “Let the cat out of the bag.”

Its modern meaning is to reveal a secret but this expression finds its roots in 18th-century street fraud. Suckling pigs were often sold in bags, and a popular scheme was to replace the pig with a cat and sell it to a unwitting buyer. At times the cat would find its way out of the bag, revealing the truth.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

Priced at \$235, the Bacon Bling sandwich has set the record for most expensive bacon sandwich. The sandwich contains a “rare breed bacon,” eggs, black truffles, truffle oil, gold leaf, gold dust and saffron.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

Peanut butter is an effective way to remove chewing gum from hair or clothes.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

Hip hop artist Nas listed his daughter as an executive producer on his album Stillmatic so that she could always receive royalty checks from the album’s sales.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

Ian Botham led the England cricket team to triumph in the 1981 Ashes with a record-breaking, and still unbeaten, 149 runs in the second innings.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

“Good friends are like stars, you know they are there even when you can’t see them”

Unknown

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Shaking Hands

Handshaking can be traced as far back as Ancient Egypt, the practice had a common purpose: checking to make sure the greeter was not concealing any weapons to possibly murder one with. Since weapons were most often wielded by the right hand the practice involved the right hand to show that it was unarmed.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 30

## FUN FACTS

- \*Apples are part of the rose family.
- \*There are over one hundred billion galaxies, each galaxy has billions of stars.
- \*The Coca Cola company offers more than 300 different beverages.

## SUPER SCIENCE

Mt Vesuvius erupted in 79 AD. The eruption buried the city's of 20,000 inhabitants under volcanic ashes, completely covered the city preserving the buildings. Pompeii lay buried and forgotten until 1748, excavation was begun and it archaeologists are still working on the site to this day.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Moose

Moose are naturally gifted swimmers. It's common to see one hop right into a lake and swim across at up to 6 mph. The animals have an innate ability to know how to swim, so even calves can swim.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS "Don't look a gift horse in the mouth."

A common way to inspect a horse's "worth" is to check it's mouth and examine their teeth for signs of aging. Receiving a horse as a gift and immediately inspecting its value was considered offensive, much like inquiring about the worth of a present is today.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

On May 23, 2013 Japan's Yuichiro Miura became the oldest person to reach the summit of Mount Everest at the age of 80. He had previously climbed the mountain in 2003 and 2008

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

Sprinkling salt on your pineapple enhances the sweetness of the fruit.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

In 1977, the band Pink Floyd tied a giant inflatable pig to a power station as a publicity stunt. The pig broke free, and floated over Heathrow airport, where all flights had to be grounded to avoid collisions with it.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

Jonathan Edwards broke two triple jump records in two consecutive jumps, winning gold in the World Championships. The record he set of 18.29 metres is yet to be beaten.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

"Keep your face to the sunshine and you can never see the shadow." Helen Keller

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Chocolate Milk

Sir Hans Sloane, an Irish botanist. Sloane spent some time in Jamaica in the early 1700s, where the local people gave him cocoa to drink. When he returned to England, Sloane adding milk to the cocoa mixture to make it taste better. For years it was sold purely as medicine .

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 31

## FUN FACTS

- \*The Hawaiian alphabet only has 12 letters.
- \*The Super Bowl is broadcast to over 182 countries in the world.
- \*In one trip, a honey bee visits about 75 flowers.

## SUPER SCIENCE

Captain Cook lost 41 of his 98 crew to scurvy (a lack of vitamin C) on his first voyage to the South Pacific in 1768. By 1795 the importance of eating citrus was realized, and lemon juice was issued on all British Navy ships.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Leatherback Turtle

Leatherback sea turtles can weigh up to 2,000 pounds. They can travel more than 10,000 miles every year but when it's time to lay their eggs, female sea turtles return to the same nesting grounds where they were born.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS "Turn the tables"

In the old days, it was common to only finish one surface of the table to save money. When the family was alone, they ate on the rough side, when company came, the whole top lifted off and was turned to its good side.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

The University of the Philippine Visayas lit their way into a world record book by simultaneously releasing 15,185 shimmering lanterns into the sky.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

Reduce the gas properties of baked beans by adding a pinch of baking soda.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

The first CD to be pressed in the U.S. was Bruce Springsteen's Born in the USA.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

Besides being one of the greatest martial artists who ever lived, Bruce Lee was also talented in cha-cha dancing. He also found that practicing dancing could improve his footwork and balance.

His kung fu skills were so fast during filming they had to slow the film down so the audience could see his moves.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

"I am just a child who has never grown up. I still keep asking these 'how' and 'why' questions. Occasionally, I find an answer." - Stephen Hawking

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Honeymoon

In Babylonia 4,000 years ago, for a month after the wedding, the bride's father would supply his son-in-law with all the mead he could drink. Mead is a honey beer, and because their calendar was lunar based, this period was called the "honey month" or what we know today as the "honeymoon".



# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 32

## FUN FACTS

- \*On average, Guinness sells 7 million glasses of beer per day.
- \*One tree can filter up to sixty pounds of pollutants from the air each year.
- \*Dogs can be trained to detect an upcoming epileptic seizure.

## SUPER SCIENCE

During the formation of the early Earth a day only lasted for 6 hours. This was because of the hastened rotation eventually slowed by our moon.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Seahorse

Male seahorses are the ones that get impregnated rather than the females. Males have a pouch on their belly that provides incubation for the female's eggs and they can have up to 1500 babies at one time.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS "In the nick of time"

Back in the 19th century, commercial transactions and scores in sporting events were tracked with tally marks on a nick-stick. A nick was a thin, narrow and precise measurement, and you would "nick down" to make a mark. Over time this translated as an expression of finishing something just in time.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

The largest snowflake ever recorded reportedly measured 15 inches.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

An avocado is ready is when the small stem on top pulls away easy.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

The Louisville Leopard Percussionists are a non-profit organization who sponsor underprivileged children with music lessons. After seeing a YouTube video of the Leopards crush their version of Ozzy Osbourne's signature hit, "Crazy Train," the former leader of Black Sabbath and rock and roll icon donated \$10,000 to the group.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

In 2004 the Yankees finally won their first world series in 85 years. The last series they won was when the legendary Babe Ruth was on their team.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

"To live is to fly, all low and high. So shake the dust off of your wings and the sleep out of your eyes." Townes Van Zandt

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Best Man

The original duty of a "Best Man" was to serve as armed backup for the groom & protect them from potential kidnappings that were common in the 16th century. The "best" part of that title referred to his skill with a sword that might be needed.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 33

## FUN FACTS

- \*By donating just one pint of blood, four lives can be saved.
- \*Oak trees do not produce acorns until they are fifty years of age or older.
- \*Every continent has a city called Rome.

## SUPER SCIENCE

In 1888, an Egyptian peasant discovered an estimated three hundred thousand mummified cats in Beni Hassan, Egypt. Many of the cats were stolen, the remaining mummified cats were shipped to Great Britain to be used as agricultural fertilizer.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Fox

Like the cat, the fox has sensitive whiskers and spines on its tongue. It walks on its toes, which accounts for its elegant, cat-like tread. Many foxes have retractable claws that allow them to climb rooftops or trees. Like cats, some foxes even sleep in trees.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS “Cut to the chase”

This phrase meaning get to the point comes from the early days of Hollywood. Originally, it literally referred to a cut from a dramatic scene to an action or chase scene.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

In Rio de Janeiro Brazil, the world’s largest floating Christmas tree was lit up recently. It stand 279 feet and uses 3.1 million lights.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

You can make your flowers last 3x longer by storing them in the fridge for the first night.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

Mozart was five years old when he wrote his first complete piece. By the age of 6 he was writing his own compositions. He wrote his first opera, Mitridate Re di Ponto, in 1770 when he was only 14 years old.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

The world’s longest baseball game took place on May 1, 1920 Brooklyn Robins at Boston Braves, 26 innings The Robins (later called the Dodgers) and the Braves played to a 1-1 tie. Umpires called the game because of darkness.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

"A friend is one that knows you as you are, understands where you have been, accepts what you have become, and still, gently allows you to grow." William Shakespeare

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Loophole

Loophole, also called a “murder-hole” originally referred to the slits in castle walls that archers would shoot their arrows through.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 34

## FUN FACTS

\*Of all the countries, Brazil has the most plant species, with over 56,000

\*‘Lego’ came from the Danish word Leg Godt meaning play well.

\*Early hockey games allowed as many as 30 players a side on the ice.

## SUPER SCIENCE

In 2017 a group of 4,000 astronomers witnessed the first ever sighting of two neutron stars colliding 130 million light years away from Earth. Researchers were astonished to discover the crash also produced huge stores of silver and platinum along with the formation of a cool \$100,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 of gold.. This chance event happens only once every 100,000 years.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: BATS

Bats use echolocation to get around in the dark. Bats don't see very well are active at night, so they have to rely on navigational methods other than sight. Bats send out beeps and listen for variations in the echoes that bounce back at them, which is how they get around.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS “Your fired”

Miners who were caught stealing coal or other materials, such as copper or tin, would have their tools confiscated and burned in front of the other shift workers, a punishment that became known as ‘firing the tools’ or ‘being fired’. This meant the offender would be unable to find other work and repeat his crime elsewhere

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

The largest coral reef in the world is the Great Barrier Reef located in Australia. The reef is approximately 2023 kilometers long.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

Poke holes in the top of a coffee lid if you want it to cool down faster.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

The lyrics of the no.1 singles on the Billboard charts over the past 10 years average at a third-grade reading level.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

In 1936, American track star Jesse Owens beat a race horse over a 100-yard course. The horse was even given a head start.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

“You cannot explore the universe if you think that you are the center of it.”

Joshua Suya Pelicano

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Disaster

The word comes from the Greek dis- (bad) and aster (star), literally 'bad star'. The ancients used to blame calamities on unfavourable planetary position.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 35

## FUN FACTS

- \*Bananas are curved because they grow towards the sun
- \*Pirates wore earrings because they believed it improved their eyesight
- \*The bible is most shoplifted book in the world

## SUPER SCIENCE

The temperature on the surface of Mercury exceeds 430 degrees C during the day, and, at night, plummets to minus 180 degrees centigrade

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Sheep

Sheep have an excellent sense of smell, and have scent glands both in front of their eyes and on their feet. These glands are used in reproduction and in marking territory. They can learn and recognize human faces, and some will learn to respond to their name if trained from a young age

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS "Scot free"

A "skot" was an old Icelandic and Old Norse word for "tax." The word found its way to the English language as "scot," and came to mean something was exempt from tax..

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

The longest skis are 534 meters (1,751 feet, 11 inches) long and were worn by 1,043 skiers in an event organized by Danske Bank on Drottninggatan in Åre, Sweden, on Sept. 13, 2008.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

Stick a paperclip to the end of duct tape so you never have to struggle to find the end of the roll.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash and Carl Perkins were certified stars, and Jerry Lee Lewis was a relative unknown, but all of them found themselves at Sun Records one fateful day in 1956. The temporary supergroup jammed on country and gospel songs; luckily, Sun Records owner Sam Phillips was savvy enough to hit "record" and bring in a reporter to ensure this was preserved for posterity.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHTS

David Goggins is a Navy SEAL who has served in Afghanistan. After losing several friends on battlefields overseas, he began long-distance running to raise money for armed forces charities. In 2005 he entered the San Diego One Day event which is a 24-hour ultramarathon. He ended up running 100 miles in under 19 hours despite never having run a marathon before

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

"Someone is sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago."

Warren Buffett

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Maverick

**Samuel Maverick, was a texan who refused to brand his cattle. Eventually any unbranded calf became known as a Maverick**

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 36

## FUN FACTS

\*To produce a single pound of honey, a single bee would have to visit 2 million flowers

\*The upside-down ketchup bottle earned its inventor Paul Brown \$13 million

\*A single cloud can weigh more than 1 million pounds

## SUPER SCIENCE

Due to nerves being cut during the removal process, a transplanted heart pumps around 30 beats faster than a normal heart, averaging about 100 beats per minute.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Manta Ray

Manta rays have the largest brains of all 32,000 species (approximately) of fish known to date. They display intelligent behaviour, such as coordinated and cooperative feeding. Mantas can grow to nearly 25 feet from wingtip to wingtip, live for a quarter century, and will consume about 60 pounds of plankton and small fish each day by filter feeding

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS “Win hands down”

In horse racing, a jockey who's winning by a wide margin doesn't need to whip his horse to go faster, and can win with his "hands down." The phrase soon caught on outside the sporting world.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

German tour operator and travel agency Schauinsland-Reisen GmbH used 3,500 tonnes of sand to create the world's largest sand sculpture. Built over a month and depicting tourist attractions such as the leaning tower of pisa the sculpture reached height's of 54 ft 9 in.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

The fat, oil, and the chemicals in potato and corn chips make them a perfect fire-starting kindling material.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

In 2013, researchers studied the effects of music on 272 premature infants in a neonatal intensive care unit, and they found that playing lullabies to the babies resulted in multiple positive behaviors, including lower heart rates and higher caloric intake.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHTS

Wide receiver Jerry Rice holds the record for most all time NFL touchdowns with 208.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

“Only in the darkness can you see the stars.” Martin Luther King

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Tea Bags

In 1904, tea bags were invented accidentally. The inventor, Thomas Sullivan, decided that it was cheaper to send small samples to potential customers in silk bags instead of boxes. The recipients believed they were meant to be dunked and soon Sullivan was flooded with orders for his “tea bags.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 37

## FUN FACTS

- \*The planet Uranus has 27 moons.
- \*There are approximately 9,000 taste buds on the tongue.
- \*Water expands 9% when it is frozen.

## SUPER SCIENCE

In 1973, NASA sent two spiders known as Arabella and Anita into space to see if they could spin a web without gravity. It took the spiders some time to figure out, but then eventually ended up making webs that were more complex than seen on earth.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Raccoon

On the mammal IQ scale raccoons rank higher than cats and just below monkeys. Raccoon's hands are so nimble they can unlace a shoe, unlatch a cage and deftly retrieve coins as thin as dimes from your shirt pocket.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS "Pipe Dream"

The allusion is to the dreams experienced by smokers of opium pipes. Opiates were widely used by the English literati in the 18th and 19th centuries

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

The tallest tree ever was an Australian eucalyptus. In 1872 it was measured at 435 feet tall.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

Don't have a sprinkler? Poke holes in a soda bottle and slide in your hose.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

In 2017 grammy award winning country artist Sturgill Simpson wasn't invited Country Music Awards in Nashville. The famously outspoken Sturgill stole the evening anyway, standing outside the barricades in the cold, busking and answering questions for fans.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

Yelena Isinbayeva is the world's greatest female pole vaulter currently competing holding 20 world records. Isinbayeva took the sport to new heights in 2005, when she became the first woman to pass 5 meters.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

"Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don't matter, and those who matter don't mind." Bernard M. Baruch

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: G.I.

The origins of the soldier term "G.I." is an abbreviation for "Government Issue," which was stamped on all government kits supplied to recruits in the US Army during World War II. The name Jeep came from the abbreviation used in the army for the "General Purpose" vehicle, G.P.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 38

## FUN FACTS

\*Fido means faithful in Latin.

\*Tug of war was an Olympic event from 1900-1920.

\*A scorpion can have up to 12 eyes.

## SUPER SCIENCE

Because the temperatures in a typical NASCAR car can get up to 55+ degrees Celsius, most drivers report losing between 5 and 10 pounds of fluids during a race.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Flamingo

Their pink color comes from beta-carotene in the crustaceans and plankton that flamingos eat.

Zoo flamingos will turn white if their diet does not contain carotenoid pigments.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS “15 minutes of fame”

In February 1968 Warhol exhibited his first international retrospective exhibition at the Moderna Museet gallery in Stockholm. The exhibition catalogue contained "In the future everybody will be world famous for fifteen minutes."

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

Kingda Ka at Six Flags Great Escape near Jackson, New Jersey includes a drop of 418 ft. It's also the world's tallest roller coaster at 456 ft.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

Heavier lemons produce more, and tastier, juice.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

Rick Allen, the drummer of the band Led Zeppelin had one of his arms amputated after a terrible car accident. The band helped him get back on his feet by applying easier tools to create sound waves that would sound like drums and continued as a band.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

In the 2008 Summer Olympics, Michael Phelps swam his way to 8 gold medals, the record for the most medals won at a single olympics. He also holds the title for most Olympic medals with a whopping 22.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

“The power of imagination makes us infinite.” John Muir

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Microwave

In 1932, a man named Percy Spencer was hired to install electricity in a paper mill plant. One day, while Spencer was working on building magnetrons for radar sets, he was standing in front of an active radar set when he noticed that the candy bar in his pocket had melted. After much investigation, he developed a huge box that could shoot electromagnetic radiation at food objects to heat them.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 39

## FUN FACTS

- \*The human liver performs over 500 functions.
- \*The White House has 35 bathrooms, 3 elevators and 132 rooms.
- \*The first cheerleaders in the U.S. were men.

## SUPER SCIENCE

The average moderately active person take around 7,500 step/day. If you maintain that daily average and live until 80 years of age with average stride you will have walked the equivalent of walking about 5 times around the Earth, right on the equator.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Goat

Goats have excellent coordination. They have great balance and are thus able to survive in precarious areas such as steep mountains. They can even climb trees and some species can jump over 5 feet high.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS “Go haywire”

Haywire is the light wire that was used in baling machines to tie up bales of hay. If one were to break loose, the hay would go everywhere.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

China opened the world's longest sea bridge in 2011. The Jiaozhou Bay bridge is 26.4 miles long and 110 feet wide. It links the Northern port city of Qingdao with an airport built on a nearby island and the industrial suburb of Huangdao.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

You can steam iron a shirt quickly by hanging it in the shower.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

There are few activities in life that utilize the entire brain, performing music is one of them. With Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI), a research team recorded a group of individuals who were listening to music. They believe music can activate emotional, motor, and creative areas of the brain.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

Paula Radcliffe is the best female marathon runner in recorded history. Of the seven marathons she has run, she has won six and set a record in five. She has run four of the five fastest times in history.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

“An eye for eye only ends up making the whole world blind.” Gandhi

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Red Bull

The drink was originally discovered when an Austrian entrepreneur noticed that a drink called Krating Daeng helped cure his jet lag while visiting Thailand. It was quickly integrated into his beverage company's line and the rest is history.



# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 40

## FUN FACTS

- \*The state of Maine has 62 lighthouses.
- \*The voices of Mickey and Minnie Mouse got married in real life.
- \*The temperature in Antarctica often dips lower than -55 degrees celsius.

## SUPER SCIENCE

The dinosaur with the longest neck for its body size is the Mamenchisaurus hochuanensis, a sauropod dino that lived in what is now China. The American Museum of Natural History in New York has a Mamenchisaurus specimen which is 60 ft. long, a whopping 30 feet of it is made up of the neck.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Duck

Ducks beaks have a filtering system similar to blue whales. Rows of small bristles line their mouth which allow them to filter water out of their beaks without losing their food.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS “Make a beeline for it”

When a forager bee finds a source of nectar it returns to the hive and communicates its location to the other bees, using a display called the Waggle Dance. The other bees are then able to fly directly to the source of the nectar 'making a beeline' for it.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

The tallest tree ever measured was an Australian eucalyptus. Back in 1872 it was measured at 435 feet tall.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

To break in new shoes quickly, blow dry tight spots while wearing thick socks.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

At 12:01 am on August 1st, 1981, MTV showed its first music video "Video Killed the Radio Star," a 1979 single release by the British new wave group The Buggles. On February 27th, 2000, "Video Killed the Radio Star" became the one millionth video to be aired on MTV.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

George foreman was the oldest heavyweight champion at age 46 he beat 26-year-old Axel Schulz in controversial match in 1995.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

“Find what you love and let it kill you.” Charles Bukowski

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Coffee

According to an Ethiopian legend, the caffeinated power of coffee was discovered when a goat herder witnessed his goats' energetic behavior after snacking on the berries growing on the coffee plants.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 41

## FUN FACTS

- \*Norway once knighted a penguin.
- \*Strawberries contain more vitamin C than oranges.
- \*You share your birthday with at least 9 million other people in the world.

## SUPER SCIENCE

The familiar phenomenon of yawning has been observed in every single class of vertebrates (mammals, birds, amphibians, fish, etc.).

### AMAZING ANIMALS: Mouse

Mice are intelligent creatures with complex levels of communication, which are vocal, odorous and even include facial expressions which to show their moods.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS “No Dice”

Originating the early 20th century when gambling with dice was illegal in many states. Gamblers went to great lengths to hide dice when confronted by police and courts would sometimes throw out cases if the dice weren't offered in evidence.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

The largest dinosaur ever discovered was Seismosaurus who was over 100 feet long and weighed up to 80 tonnes.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

To stop brain freeze, press the underside of your tongue to the roof of your mouth.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

The ‘Sea Organ’ in Croatia continuously plays music powered by waves that flow through tubes located underneath a set of large marble steps.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

Thousands of travelers head to Nicaragua Cerro Negro mountain every year to take part in the new sporting craze, racing down an active 2,380 ft volcano. Surfers, dressed in protective jumpsuits, knee-pads and helmets, can reach speeds of up to 80 km on their specially-constructed plywood boards.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

“Be not afraid of going slowly, be afraid only of standing still” Chinese proverb

### ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Wristwatch

Several Swiss watchmakers began attaching small watches to bracelets in 1790. Those early watches weren't considered serious timepieces, and they remained strictly a women's item until World War I, when armies recognized their usefulness in battle and began issuing them to servicemen instead of the traditional pocket watch.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 42

## FUN FACTS

- \*Children tend to grow faster in the spring.
- \*When the moon is directly overhead, you weigh slightly less.
- \*Alaska has the highest percentage of people who walk to work.

## SUPER SCIENCE

Sunlight takes about 8 minutes and 20 seconds to reach the Earth travelling at the speed of light, which is 186,282 miles/sec.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Frog

Frogs are fascinating creatures, they don't need to drink water as they absorb it through their skin. They are also very agile, some frogs can jump over 20 times their own body length ; that is like a human jumping 100 feet.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS "Gung Ho"

This is an adaptation of the Chinese kung - work, and go - together. The Anglicized term gung ho became widely known in English as a slogan that was adopted in WWII by the United States Marines under General Evans Carlson.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

The world's largest rubber band ball was made by Joel Waul in Lauderhill Florida. Consisting of 700,000 rubber bands this record breaker is now owned by Ripley's Believe it or not.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

Grocery shop after a meal, you will spend less impulsive.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

Bob Marley gave credit for "No Woman, No Cry" to Vincent Ford, a friend who ran a soup kitchen, to ensure the royalty checks would keep the kitchen open.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

Tony Hawk had set a high bar of making a 900 degree rotation on a skateboard. At just 12 years old Tony Schaer has now upped that record to with the world's first 1080 degree skateboarding rotation, winning the gold in an X Games Asia competition.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

"All you need is love." John Lennon

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Popsicle

The Popsicle was actually created by accident in 1905. 11-year-old Frank Epperson left a sweet drink and its stirring stick on the porch overnight, He shared his 'Epsicle' with his friends and later his own children, who called the treats Pop's -icles. In 1923 Epperson applied for the patent and the Popsicle brand name was born.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 43

## FUN FACTS

- \*Nylon is a man-made fibre that is created from coal and petroleum.
- \*Mosquitoes are attracted to blue more than any other color.
- \*Oak trees do not produce acorns until they are fifty years of age or older.

## SUPER SCIENCE

The ocean is an average of 12,080.7 feet (3,682.2 meters) deep. That's about eight Empire State Buildings, stacked one on top of the other. The deepest part of the ocean, however, is estimated to be about 36,200 feet deep.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Kangaroo

There are more kangaroos than humans in Australia. Red Kangaroos are the largest kangaroo and can grow up to 2 metres. They can reach a speeds over 65 km/hr and in one leap they have been known to jump up to 3m high and 8m long.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS “Blaze a trail”

In the 1700's a blaze was a notch or mark, 'to blaze a trail' was to mark it out by notching trees so that others could follow. The use of the word blaze meant the chipping off of a small piece of bark to mark a path or boundary.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

Rob Williams took less than 2 minutes to construct a bologna sandwich, complete with lettuce, tomato, cheese, and condiments, using only his feet.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

Take a picture of your fridge with the doors open and you will never forget to buy what you need at the grocery store

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

Harry Nilsson wrote “One Is the Loneliest Number” after trying to call someone and getting a busy signal. He stayed on the line and listened to the signal tone while writing, and that tone became the opening notes of the song.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

Bo-taoshi is Japanese for “pole-pulldown”, and as far as intensity is concerned this sport is hard to beat. Each team has 150 people that are divided into 75 attackers and 75 defenders. The goal? Knock down the other teams pole.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

“We become what we think about.” Earl Nightingale

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Rodeo

In 1882 Pecos, Texas a rancher offered \$100 prizes for bronco riding, bulldogging and roping. A promoter in 1916 decided to use the Spanish term for roundup 'rodeo' to sell tickets to the competition. As the popularity grew, so has the prize money and the crowds.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 44

## FUN FACTS

- \*Forest fires move faster uphill than downhill.
- \*A fetus develops fingerprints at eighteen weeks.
- \*The original name for the butterfly was 'flutterby'.

## SUPER SCIENCE

In an hour of reading a book the eyes make nearly 10,000 coordinated movements.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Cows

Like humans, cows can form close friendships and choose to spend much of their time with 2-4 preferred individuals. They can also hear both low and high frequency sounds beyond human capability.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS “Go the whole nine yards”

During World War II, the fighter pilots were equipped with nine yards of ammunition. When they ran out, it meant that they had tried their best at fighting off the target with the entirety of their ammunition.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

The Bugatti Veyron Super Sport is the world’s fastest production car with a top speed of this amazing sports car has been logged at 268 mph.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

Tie a brightly colored ribbon to your luggage to pick it out easily at airports.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

Scientists used brain-imaging techniques that revealed that the music caused dopamine peaks coupled with emotional arousal. The release of dopamine during music explains why music can easily manipulate our emotions.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

Native Americans played an ancient version of the game lacrosse that traces back as far as 2,500 years ago. Back then, lacrosse wasn't played for fun, but rather was part of a religious ritual simulating war. The goal wasn't to have fun, but rather honor their gods and toughen up the young warriors. Games could go on for days and might include hundreds of players on each side.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

“The only way to have a friend is to be one.” Ralph Waldo Emerson

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Lucky Horseshoe

During the middle ages people thought witches feared horses and would shy away from any sign of them. This is why people originally attached horseshoes to their houses.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 45

## FUN FACTS

- \*On average a person spends 6 whole years of his/her life dreaming.
- \*One day on Mercury lasts approximately as long as 59 days on earth.
- \*Bees can sense a flower's electric field and use it to find pollen.

## SUPER SCIENCE

Using cells from human donors doctors have, for the first time, built a set of vocal cords from scratch. The cells were urged to form a tissue that mimics vocal fold mucosa- vibrating flaps in the larynx that create the sounds of the human voice.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Seagull

Seagulls are very clever. They learn, remember and even pass on behaviours, such as stamping their feet in a group to imitate rainfall and trick earthworms to come to the surface.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS "Pass the acid test"

Gold prospectors and dealers need to be able to distinguish gold from base metal. The original acid test was developed in the late 18th century and relied on nitric acid's ability to dissolve other metals more readily than gold. To confirm that a find was indeed gold it was given 'the acid test'.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

The world's most active volcano is Kilauea, in Hawaii, USA, erupting on a continuous basis since 1983. Lava is being discharged at a rate of 5 m<sup>3</sup>(7 yd<sup>3</sup> or 176 ft<sup>3</sup>) per second.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

Keyboards can be cleaned with Post-It Notes.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

Hey Jude started as "Hey Jules," a song written by Paul McCartney for Julian Lennon, who was going through a difficult time because his parents were divorcing.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

Chess boxing is a sport that demands brains and brawn like no other athletic competition.

Popular in Germany and the United Kingdom, the game is played with alternating rounds of chess and boxing. Competitors can win by winning the chess game, by knocking out an opponent or by judges' decision at the end.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

"If Plan 'A' doesn't work, the alphabet has 25 more letters. Stay cool." Anonymous

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Bridesmaids & Groomsmen

In ancient Rome, bridesmaids and groomsmen were decoys for the bride and groom. The wedding party dressed alike to confuse evil spirits who might target the bride and groom.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 46

## FUN FACTS

- \*There are about 8.7 million unique species living on the earth
- \*The average time it takes for plastic to decompose is 450 years. Glass takes 4,000 years.
- \*The earth has over 80,000 species of edible plants. We only eat about 30 varieties

## SUPER SCIENCE

Gravity on the moon is only 1/6th of what it is on Earth. Someone who weighs 100 lbs on this planet moves the scales at only 17 pounds on the moon. The gravity is lower because the moon has just 1% of the mass of Earth.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Ostrich

The flightless ostrich is the world's largest bird. Although flightless, ostriches are the fast runners of any birds or other two-legged animal and can sprint at over 70 km/hr, covering up to 5m in a single stride.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS "Under the weather"

When a sailor was ill he would be sent below decks, or 'under the weather', where it was dry, warm, and he could more readily recover.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

Georges Christen from Luxembourg holds the record for longest distance keeping a table lifted with teeth. He ran 38 feet and 8 inches while carrying a 26 pound table — and a 110 pound woman sitting on it!

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

For a quick fix to a wrinkly shirt while you're wearing it, pull the front of your shirt out and blow dry it for a few seconds.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

Originally, the first line to Irving Berlin's "White Christmas" was "I'm sitting by a pool in Beverly Hills dreaming of a White Christmas. "A friend suggested to him that he drop the reference to Beverly Hills, and the song went on to become the most commercially successful song ever.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

Wilt Chamberlain scored the most points in a single basketball game in history with an astonishing 100 points in 1962!

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

"You got to be careful if you don't know where you're going, because you might not get there."  
Yogi Berra

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Chewing Gum

The first over-the-counter chewing gum was spruce sap, introduced to New England colonists by Native Americans.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 47

## FUN FACTS

- \*A snail can sleep for more than three years at a time.
- \*If a month begins with on a Sunday, it will always have a Friday the 13th.
- \*The American Sports industry is worth \$422 billion a year.

## SUPER SCIENCE

Spiders are able to spin sticky and non-sticky silk. They simply avoid walking on the sticky silk. In addition, spiders have moveable claws on their feet that grip and release the web's threads as they walk.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Yak

Yaks are able to withstand temperatures of -40 degrees C. The yak's warm coat provides insulation through a thick outer coating of long hair and a dense inner coating of matted, shorter fur.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS "To the bitter end"

A term born out of sailing that refers to the end of a mooring line or anchor line that is attached to the bitts, sturdy wooden or metal posts that are mounted on the ship's deck.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

The tallest sunflower measures 9.17 m (30 ft 1 in) and was grown by Hans-Peter Schiffer in Kaarst, Nordrhein Westfalen, Germany.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

If you chew gum while you peel onions, it will keep you from crying.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

Roy Orbison's trademark look came about when he misplaced his regular glasses and had to rely on a pair of prescription sunglasses. His management liked the mysterious look it gave him and soon, they were the only ones he wore.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

According an official statement by the Cardboard Tube Fighting League the sport was started based on three principles: people need more ways to play and take themselves less seriously, events can be fun without alcohol, and cardboard sword fighting is fun.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

"The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results" Albert Einstein

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Pajamas

Pajamas are a set of loose-fitting sleeping clothes, consisting of a jacket and trousers. The word entered the English language in the 19th century. It derives from the Hindi word payjamah, meaning leg (pay) and clothing (jamah).



# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 48

## FUN FACTS

- \*Indian police get paid extra for having a mustache.
- \*Wikipedia banned the Church of Scientology from editing any articles.
- \*When ants wake up, they take time to stretch.

## SUPER SCIENCE

A review article published in the scientific journal Neuron described a number of recent studies showing that brain imaging can help predict a person's future learning, criminality, health-related behaviors, and response to drug or behavioral treatments.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Sea Lion

A Sea Lion is able to dive up to 600 feet for food in the water and they can remain under the water for up to 40 minutes before they must surface for air. This is accomplished by closing their nostrils together instinctively as they enter the water.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS "Son of a gun"

In the 1800s, British sailors took women along on extended voyages. When babies were born at sea, the mothers delivered them in a partitioned section of the gundeck. Because no one could be sure who the true fathers were, each of these "gunnery" babies was jokingly called a "son of a gun."

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

2,950 Gen Con attendees beat the record for the largest rock, paper, scissors, lizard, spock tournament, with a Guinness World Records judge on-site to officially verify the result.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

Baking cookies in muffin tins will keep them from spreading out keeping them soft and chewy.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

Using a modified board with elevated squares, Ray Charles frequently played chess with friends and band members. In 2002, Charles faced off against (and lost to) chess grandmaster Larry Evans.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

In 1959 NHL goaltender Jacques Plante became the first person to routinely wear a goalie mask.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

"Be kinder than necessary because everyone you meet is fighting some kind of battle." J.M. Barrie

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Chinese Fortune Cookies

Were not Chinese but Californian, created by local Chinese in the Gold Rush of 1849. When they were introduced into China in the 1990s they were sold as "Genuine American Fortune Cookies".

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 49

## FUN FACTS

- \*Cuddling releases the natural painkiller Oxytocin in the brain.
- \*There are three towns in the United States that are named Santa Claus.
- \*Of the 247 billion email messages sent every day, 81% are spam.

## SUPER SCIENCE

Our moon can be very hot during the day but very cold at night time. The surface temperature ranges between -153 & 110 degrees celsius on an average day.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Hedgehog

Hedgehogs have thick and spiny coats, providing them with a formidable defence against predators. They have about 5000 spines. Each spine lasts about a year then drops out and a replacement grows.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS “Freelancer”

It is derived from the centuries old term referring to free-for-hire mercenary soldiers. By the early 1900s, the term evolved to describe writers who worked for hire.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

The longest sandwich ever measured was 2,411 ft. It was created by members of three teams in Lebanon.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

When trying to find a lost item, turn off the lights and use a flashlight to focus.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

Neil Diamond's 1969 hit "Sweet Caroline" was inspired by the innocence of a picture he saw in a magazine of a little girl riding a pony. The girl was Caroline Kennedy.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

On March 23rd 2014, Table Tennis Daily's Daniel Ives and his father Peter broke the world record for the Longest Table Tennis Rally. The duo achieved 8 hours, 40 minutes and 10 seconds breaking the world record at the Plumstead Radical Club in London.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

"Have no fear of perfection, you'll never reach it." Salvador Dali

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Sandwiches

One day in the 1700s, the Earl of Sandwich was so busy gambling, he did not want to go to eat. So, he ordered some food to be piled between two slices of bread, which he ate while gambling. The sandwich has been popular ever since.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 50

## FUN FACTS

- \*Polar bears are left-handed.
- \*There are more than 10,000 varieties of tomatoes.
- \*Pepsi originally contained pepsin, thus the name.

## SUPER SCIENCE

The technology behind the Internet began back in the 1960's at MIT. The first message ever to be transmitted was LOG. The user had attempted to type LOGIN, but the network crashed after the enormous load of data of the letter G.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Jaguar

Jaguars are excellent swimmers and are quite at home in the water. They also hunt successfully in rivers, catching frogs, turtles and small alligators in the shallows, or swiping at passing fish while clinging to an overhanging branch. The jaguar and the leopard are also the only big cats which do not roar.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS "Let your hair down"

In public, the aristocratic women of medieval times were obliged to appear in elegant hairdos that were usually pulled up. The only time they would "let their hair down" was when they came home and relaxed.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

Alan Edward Labbe from Massachusetts has the record for 'world's largest afro' with a circumference of 5 feet, 0.75 inches.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

Smell the skin of an orange for a natural mood enhancer.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

The Beatles have sold over 270 million copies of their albums worldwide.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

Greg 'Da Bull' Noll, moved to Hawaii in 1954 where he would gain his legendary status. Noll is widely known for his accomplishments in large Hawaiian surf. His flashy and aggressive style earned him the nickname of 'Da Bull.' Noll, is most known for his epic 35-foot wave he rode at Makaha Beach in 1969, that nearly cost him his life.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

"What you do speaks so loud that I cannot hear what you say." Ralph Waldo Emerson

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Valentine's Day

The most popular theory about Valentine's Day origin is that Emperor Claudius II didn't want Roman men to marry during wartime. Bishop Valentine went against his wishes and performed secret weddings. For this, Valentine was jailed and executed. While in jail he wrote a note to the jailer's daughter signing it "from your Valentine".

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 51

## FUN FACTS

- \*The average person takes 23,000 breaths a day.
- \*The pomegranate is one of the oldest fruits known to man.
- \*Alaska was bought from Russia for about 2 cents an acre.

## SUPER SCIENCE

The medical equipment industry is one of the largest markets to have embraced 3D printing. The prosthetics market especially loves 3D. Biomedics specialists in Belgium recently implanted a 3D-printed titanium jawbone into an 83 year-old woman.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Butterflies

Butterfly wings are not solely for flight; they also act as miniature solar panels. Butterflies can only feed or fly when their bodies are warmed to at least 30° C, and they have to gain this heat from the sunshine using their wings.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS “Pass with flying colors”

In the 1600s, boats that had been out to sea would wave numerous different flags. The different banners were known as "colours." When a ship came back into home port with its banners flying, could signify a victory at sea.

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

The world's biggest cruise ship is the Allure Of the Seas holds 6,300 passengers. It has a two-deck dance hall, theatre a ice skating rink and a self-declared “first park at sea,” which features more than 12,000 plants.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

If you have a tough decision: Flip a coin -- Not to decide for you, but you might realize what you really want when it's in the air.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

Rihanna has sold over 215 million copies of her music. This makes her the highest selling “solo artist” of all time.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

Everyone in the hockey world remembers Wayne Gretzky for his great goal scoring but Mike Bossy actually holds the record for most goals per game in NHL history. He scored an impressive 573 goals in just 752 career games.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

“A closed mind is like a closed book, just a block of wood.” Chinese Proverb

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Wedding Ring

Engagement and wedding rings are worn on the fourth finger of the left hand, because ancient Greeks and Romans believed that a vein in that finger led directly to the heart.

# RAINBOW OF KNOWLEDGE # 52

## FUN FACTS

- \*Dogs only have sweat glands in their paws.
- \*Beavers teeth often look orange because their tooth enamel contains iron.
- \*Jupiter has 2.5 times the mass of all the other planets in our solar system combined.

## SUPER SCIENCE

After 49 years and \$750 million, a Stanford University experiment using superconducting niobium spheres confirmed parts of Einstein's general theory of relativity.

## AMAZING ANIMALS: Anteater

Anteaters can be small as a squirrel or up to 7 feet long, counting from the tip of the nose to the end of the tail. Anteaters are toothless creatures and they use their long and sticky tongues to catch prey. Their tongues are 2 feet long and covered with tiny spines.

## EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS: "Dressed to the nines"

"To the nines" is an English idiom meaning "to perfection" or "to the highest degree" or to dress "buoyantly and high class". In modern English usage, the phrase most commonly appears as "dressed to the nines" or "dressed up to the nines".

## WEIRD WORLD RECORDS

According to the Guinness Book of World Records, the heaviest person ever was American Jon Brower Minnoch (1,400 lbs). He was admitted to hospital at this weight, a great deal of which was water accumulation due to his congestive heart failure.

## TRICK OF THE TRADE

Sprinkle salt over the ice in your cooler to make it last longer.

## MUSICAL MOMENTS

Pink Floyd's acclaimed 1973 classic "Dark Side of the Moon" has spent an amazing 861 weeks riding the Billboard top 200 album chart. That's over 16 (non-consecutive) years.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

Barry Bonds hit 762 career home runs during his 22 major league baseball seasons.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

"One's destination is never a place but rather a new way of looking at things."

Henry Miller

## ORIGINAL ORIGINS: Hat Trick

The term originated in cricket, where it refers to three wickets taken by a bowler in three consecutive balls, traditionally rewarded with the presentation of a hat. It later was transferred to ice hockey, soccer, and baseball, where it denotes three consecutive successes (goals, hits), and then to more every day general use.