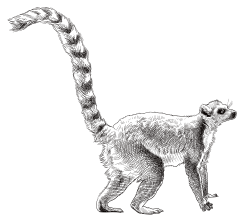


Trivia

Lemurs, native to Madagascar, are actually more closely related to humans than to some species of monkeys. This is due to a group of early primates called "strepsirrhines," which includes lemurs, lorises, and galagos. Despite all being primates, lemurs share a closer genetic bond with humans than some more commonly known primates like macaques or baboons, due to evolutionary divergence.



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The longest known hiccuping spree lasted 68 years. Charles Osborne, an American man, had hiccups continuously from 1922 until 1990. He hiccuped over 430 million times before the condition mysteriously stopped, though doctors never fully understood why it happened.

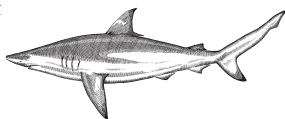
The Minoan civilization, one of the earliest in Europe, had a written script that remains undeciphered to this day. Known as Linear A, it was used by the Minoans around 1700 BC and has never been successfully translated, despite numerous attempts from linguists and cryptographers.

Astronauts can experience a form of "space dementia" in microgravity. Studies have shown that long-term exposure to weightlessness in space can cause cognitive impairments, including memory loss and changes in the brain's structural integrity, suggesting that the human brain needs gravity to function optimally.

Humans and giraffes share the same number of neck vertebrae, seven. Despite the giraffe's long neck, both humans and giraffes have the same number of cervical vertebrae, with the giraffe's neck vertebrae being elongated and more mobile, explaining the neck's unique structure.

The sound of a red fox's scream, often likened to a woman's scream, is due to a specialized vocal apparatus that includes a modified larynx and unique muscle control. This gives the fox the ability to produce terrifying and unusually loud vocalizations, especially in the breeding season when they communicate with one another over great distances.

Sharks can live for weeks without food. Some species, like the Greenland shark, can survive for months on a single meal by slowing their metabolism.



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Dates in History

1735 On August 4, George Washington, a young Virginia planter, became a Master Mason, the highest basic rank in the secret fraternity of Freemasonry. The ceremony was held at the Masonic Lodge No. 4 in Fredericksburg, Virginia. Washington was 21 years old and would soon command his first military operation as a major in the Virginia colonial militia.

Freemasonry evolved from the practices and rituals of the stonemasons' guilds in the Middle Ages. With the decline of European cathedral building, "lodges" decided to admit non-stonemasons to maintain membership, and the secret fraternal order grew in popularity in Europe. In 1717, the first Grand Lodge, an association of lodges, was founded in England, and Freemasonry was soon disseminated throughout the British Empire. The first American Mason lodge was established in Philadelphia in 1730, and future revolutionary leader Benjamin Franklin was a founding member.

1896 On August 16, while salmon fishing near the Klondike River in Canada's Yukon Territory, George Carmack reportedly spotted nuggets of gold in a creek bed. His lucky discovery sparked the last great gold rush in the American West.

Hoping to cash in on reported gold strikes in Alaska, Carmack had traveled there from California in 1881. After running into a dead end, he headed north into the isolated Yukon Territory, across the Canadian border. In 1896, another prospector, Robert Henderson, told Carmack of finding gold in a tributary of the Klondike River. Carmack headed to the region with two Native American companions, known as Skookum Jim and Tagish Charlie. On August 16, while camping near Rabbit Creek, Carmack reportedly spotted a nugget of gold jutting out from the creek bank. His two companions later agreed that Skookum Jim—Carmack's brother-in-law—actually made the discovery.

1914 On August 4, as World War I erupted in Europe, President Woodrow Wilson formally proclaimed the neutrality of the United States, a position that a vast majority of Americans favored.

history.com

On the Lighter Side

Where do polar bears keep their money? In a snowbank.



What's the difference between a poorly dressed man on a tricycle and a well-dressed man on a bicycle? Attire.

Why were the fish's grades bad? They were below sea level.

My wife and I had a huge argument about who will do the laundry. Eventually, I folded.

A man is washing his car with his son. The son asks, 'Dad, can't you just use a sponge?'

Why are green beans the most Zen of all vegetables? Because they've found their inner peas.

What do you call sad coffee? Despresso.

Someone stole my mood ring yesterday. I still don't know how I feel about that.

What do you call a dog with no legs? It doesn't matter, it's not going to come anyway.

What washes up on very small beaches? Micro-waves

When I was ten, my family moved to Downers Grove, Illinois. When I was twelve, I found them.

I ran three miles the other day. Finally I said "Lady, keep your purse".



parade.com