

Trivia

did you know that ...

The world's average school year is 200 days per year. In the US, it is 180 days, in Japan it is 243 days.

There are 1040 islands around Britain, one of which is the smallest island in the world: Bishop's Rock.

The thin line of cloud that forms behind an aircraft at high altitudes is called a contrail.

Water expands by about 9% as it freezes.

Themes from movies Unforgiven, A Perfect World, The Bridges of Madison County, and Absolute Power were all written by Clint Eastwood.

Fishing is the biggest participant sport in the world.

The oldest surviving daily newspaper is the Wiener Zeitung of Austria. It was first printed in 1703.

The first novel sold through a vending machine - at the Paris Metro - was Murder on the Orient Express.

The doors that cover US nuclear silos weigh 748 tons and open in 19 seconds.

In the Middle Ages, sugar was a treasured luxury costing 9 times as much as milk.

An ounce of chocolate contains about 20 mg of caffeine.

The verb "cleave" is the only English word with two synonyms which are antonyms of each other: adhere and separate.

A pregnant goldfish is called a twit.

(<http://www.didyounow.cd/>)

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Dates in History

1831 On August 1st, London Bridge opened.

By the end of the 18th century it was apparent that the old London Bridge—by then over 600 years old—needed to be replaced. It was narrow, decrepit, and blocked river traffic. However the old bridge continued to be used as the new bridge was being built, and was demolished later.

After the opening of the new bridge, the recently constructed HMS Beagle was the first ship to pass under it.

In 1967, the Common Council of the City of London placed the bridge on the market and began to look for potential buyers. On April 18, 1968, the bridge was sold to an American entrepreneur Robert P. McCulloch of McCulloch Oil for \$2,460,000.

As the bridge was taken apart, each piece was numbered to aid re-assembly. The bridge was reconstructed at Lake Havasu City, Arizona, and re-dedicated on October 10, 1971. The reconstruction of London Bridge spans the Bridgewater Channel canal that leads from Lake Havasu to Thomson Bay, and forms the centerpiece of a theme park in English style, complete with a Tudor period shopping mall. London Bridge has become Arizona's second-biggest tourist attraction, after the Grand Canyon.

On the Lighter Side

An Amish boy and his father were visiting a mall. They were amazed by almost everything they saw, but especially by two shiny silver walls that could move apart and back together again.

The boy asked his father, "What is this father?"

The father, (never having seen an elevator), responded, "Son, I have never seen anything like this in my life. I don't know what it is!"

While the boy and his father were watching wide-eyed, an old lady in a wheel chair rolled up to the moving walls and pressed a button. The walls opened and the lady rolled between them into a small room.

The walls closed and the boy and his father watched small circles of light with numbers above the wall light up. They continued to watch the circles light up in the reverse direction.

The walls opened up again and a beautiful 24-year-old woman stepped out.

The father said to his son, "Go get your mother!!!"

A cop pulls over a car load of nuns....

Cop: "Sister, this is a 65 MPH highway -- why are you going so slow?"

Sister: "Sir, I saw a lot of signs that said 22, not 65."

Cop: "Oh Sister, that's not the speed limit, that's the name of the highway you're on!"

Sister: "Oh! Silly me! Thanks for letting me know. I'll be more careful."

At this point the cop looks in the backseat where the other nuns are shaking and trembling.

Cop: "Excuse me, Sister, what's wrong with your friends back there? They're shaking something terrible."

Sister: "Oh, we just got off of highway 119."