

# Trivia



Long before trees overtook the land, earth was covered by giant mushrooms up to 24 feet tall and three feet wide.

It would take about 680 years to get to Pluto if you were driving in a car at 590 miles per hour.

There's a condition in which a person experiences unreal and very loud noises just as they're falling asleep, deep into the REM cycle. It's called "exploding head syndrome."

You know those statues of people riding horses? Well, the legs of the horse can tell you how the person riding it died. If a horse has both its front legs in the air, then the person died in battle. If the horse has one of its front legs in the air, they died of wounds received from a battle. And if the horse has both its front legs on the ground then the person died of natural causes.

Despite the colossal size of the project, the designing, planning, and construction of The Empire State Building only took 20 months.

The Chesapeake Bay watershed stretches about 524 miles from Cooperstown, New York, to Norfolk, Virginia. It reaches six states Delaware, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and the entire District of Columbia.

The reason "Kansas" and "Arkansas" are pronounced differently is because "Kansas" has Native American roots, where "Arkansas" has French roots.

Your eyes are the most active muscle of your body, moving about 100,000 times per day.

Lungs aren't the same size. To accommodate the heart, the right lung is larger than the left lung.

If a human being's DNA were uncoiled, it would stretch 10 billion miles, from Earth to Pluto and back!



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## Dates in History

**1797** On October 22nd, the first parachute jump of note was made by André-Jacques Garnerin from a hydrogen balloon 3,200 feet above Paris. Garnerin first conceived of the possibility of using air resistance to slow an individual's fall from a high altitude while a prisoner during the French Revolution. He completed his first parachute in 1797, a canopy 23 feet in diameter and attached to a basket with suspension lines. He died in a balloon accident in 1823 while preparing to test a new parachute.

**1825** On October 26th, The Erie Canal opened, connecting the Great Lakes with the Atlantic Ocean via the Hudson River. Work began on the waterway in 1817, and 83 canal locks were built to accommodate the more than 500 foot rise in elevation. After more than two years of digging, the 363 mile Erie Canal from Albany to Buffalo, was opened by Governor Clinton. The effect of the canal was immediate and dramatic. Settlers poured into western New York, Ohio, Michigan, Illinois and Wisconsin. Goods were transported at one-tenth the previous fee in less than half the time. Barges of farm produce and raw materials traveled east, as manufactured goods and supplies flowed west.

**1975** On October 11th, *Saturday Night Live (SNL)*, a topical comedy sketch show featuring Chevy Chase, John Belushi, Dan Aykroyd, Gilda Radner, Garrett Morris, Jane Curtin, and Laraine Newman, made its debut on NBC. The 90-minute program, which from its inception has been broadcast live from Studio 8H at Rockefeller Center, includes a different guest host and musical act each week. The opening sketch of each show ends with one actor saying, "Live from New York, it's Saturday Night!"

## On the Lighter Side



What kind of award does the world's top dentist get?  
A little plaque.

You know what can really ruin a Friday?  
Remembering it's Thursday.

Why can you never trust spiders?  
Because they post stuff on the web.

Lately, coworkers have been writing names on the food in the office fridge.

I'm currently eating a sandwich named Kevin.

It's hard to explain puns to kleptomaniacs because they always take things literally.

A man rushed into a doctor's surgery, shouting "help me please, I'm shrinking!" The doctor calmly said, "now settle down a bit"...

.."you'll just have to learn to be a little patient"

Do you know where you can get chicken broth in bulk?  
The stock market.

That's a pretty good ceiling.  
It's not the best, but it's up there!

What's the leading cause of dry skin? Towels.

What do you call a fish with no eyes?  
Fssshhhhhh

