

Trivia

The frigate bird can sleep while it flies.

Playing techno dance music may help ward off mosquitos.

Movie trailers got their name because they were originally shown after the movie.

Alaska is the only state whose name can be typed by using only the keys on one row on a keyboard.

Queen Elizabeth II is a trained mechanic.

Basenji dogs are the only breed that doesn't bark.

Jupiter is twice as massive as all the other planets combined.

An adult human body contains about 100,000 miles of blood cells.

The most common password is "123456."

The little dot above a lowercase "i" and "j" has a name: it is called a "tittle."

The chicken and the ostrich are the closest living relatives of the Tyrannosaurus rex.

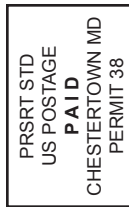
The average American spends about 2.5 days a year looking for lost items.

More Monopoly money is printed each year than real U.S. currency.

The average American produces 4.5 pounds of trash per day.

If you plug your nose, you can't taste the difference between an apple, a potato, and an onion.

(bestlifeonline.com)



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Dates in History

1671 Thomas Blood, disguised as a clergyman, attempted to steal England's Crown jewels from the Tower of London on May 9th. He was arrested as he tried to leave. In custody Blood refused to answer questions, instead repeating stubbornly, "I'll answer to none but the King himself." King Charles II asked, "What if I should give you your life?" to which Blood replied, "I would endeavor to deserve it, Sire!" Blood was not only pardoned but was given lands worth £500/year (\$114,686 in 2020).

1883 Bob Rogers was acknowledged as the first American pro sports trainer when he was hired by the NY Athletic Club on May 1st.

1904 The GWR 3700 Class steam locomotive No. 3440 City of Truro was built for the Great Western Railway at Swindon Works to a design by George Jackson Churchward. On May 9th, the City of Truro became the first steam engine in Europe to exceed 100 MPH.

1941 The American drama film *Citizen Kane*, directed by Orson Welles and starring himself, Joseph Cotten, and Dorothy Corningore, premiered May 1st at the Palace Theatre in New York City. The film was so obviously based on the tycoon William Randolph Hearst, who had built up the country's largest newspaper chain, that Hearst tried to buy the film so that he could destroy the negative. He failed but forbade any mention of the film in any of his newspapers.

2005 Antonio Ramon Villaraigosa became the first Hispanic mayor of Los Angeles in 130 years in a runoff election on May 17th. As mayor, Villaraigosa spearheaded policies to improve student outcomes in the Los Angeles Unified School District, reduce city and highway traffic, and enhance public safety.

On the Lighter Side

I see evidence that things are getting worse in the banking industry. The other day I went into my bank and asked a teller to check my balance. She leaned over the counter and pushed me.

A mother chided her youngest for making a grab for the pie at the dinner table. "Why do you always reach for the largest piece?" She asked. "Don't you think your older brother ought to have that one?" "Nope," he answered. "He was eating pie five years before I was born."

"What is the plural of 'man,' Johnny?" asked the teacher. "Men" answered Johnny. "And the plural of 'child'?" "Twins," was the unexpected reply.

Living in rural Minnesota, I find driving through crowded Minneapolis difficult. "I have trouble figuring out when to turn and what lane to be in," I complained to my grandson. His wife could commiserate. "I know what you mean," she said. "I never know at which cornfield to turn when we come to visit you."

My daughter was anxious to do some landscaping at her new home, but then she called up sounding discouraged. "I don't think I'll ever get these flowers planted," she moaned. "It says to plant in full sun, but it's been cloudy for four days."

I'm lucky that my wife and mother are very close. I realized just how close the time I drove my mother to her doctor, which my wife usually does. When the doctor came into the room, my own dear mother introduced me as her "daughter-in-law's husband."