

# Trivia



The name for a group of rhinoceroses is called a crash.

Try as you might, you can't walk in a straight line without a visible guide point, like the sun or a star. You might think you're walking straight, but a map of your route would reveal you are doomed to walk in circles.

Your memory is like the "Telephone Game". Every time you remember an event from the past, your brain networks change in ways that can alter the later recall of the event. Thus, the next time you remember it, you might recall not the original event but what you remembered the previous time.

There is such an expansive collection of books under the British Library in their archive that if a person could read 5 books per day, it would take 80,000 years to complete.

An estimated 2% of the world's population have green eyes, making them very rare overall. However, green eyes are very common in some parts of the world, including Ireland and Scotland. In the U.S., where many people descend from ancestors from Ireland and Scotland, about 9% of people have green eyes.

The world's longest walking distance is 14,000 miles. You can walk from Magadan in Russia to Cape Town in South Africa. It requires no flying or sailing, just bridges and open roads.

Only two people have ever swam the entire length of the 2,350 mile Mississippi River: Slovenian long distance swimmer Martin Strel in 2002 and American former Navy SEAL Chris Ring in 2015. Strel swam for 68 days in a row; Ring took one day off a week, taking 181 days.

Approximately 35 million living Christmas trees are sold each year in the U.S.; more than 45 million are planted.

The tallest christmas tree ever displayed was in Seattle, Washington, in 1950. It measured 221 feet tall and it was believed to be up to 287 years old and weighed roughly 50,000 pounds.



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# Product Spotlight

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# Dates in History

**1777** On December 2nd, legend has it that Lydia Darragh single-handedly saved the lives of General George Washington and his Continental Army. Darragh overheard the British commanders planning a surprise attack on Washington's army at Whitemarsh, Pennsylvania. Using a cover story that she needed to buy flour from a nearby mill just outside the British line, Darragh passed the information to American Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Craig. The British then marched towards Whitemarsh on the evening of December 4th, 1777, and were surprised to find General Washington and the Continental Army waiting for them.

**1911** On December 14th, Norwegian Roald Amundsen became the first explorer to reach the South Pole, beating his British rival, Robert Falcon Scott. Amundsen completed his preparations and in June 1910, sailed for Antarctica, where the English explorer Robert F. Scott was also headed with the aim of reaching the South Pole. After his historic Antarctic journey, Amundsen established a successful shipping business. He later made attempts to become the first explorer to fly over the North Pole. In 1926, he passed over the North Pole in a dirigible.

**1914** On December 25th, just after midnight on Christmas morning, the majority of German troops engaged in World War I ceased firing their guns and artillery and started to sing Christmas carols. At the first light of dawn, many of the German soldiers emerged from their trenches and approached the Allied lines across no-man's-land, calling out "Merry Christmas" in their enemies' native tongues. The men exchanged presents of cigarettes and plum puddings and sang carols and songs.

# On the Lighter Side



What do snowmen call their offspring?  
Chill-dren.

How much did Santa pay for his sleigh?  
Nothing. It was on the house.

What does Santa suffer from if he gets stuck in a chimney?  
Claustrophobia.

What's every parent's favorite Christmas Carol?  
Silent Night.

What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire?  
Frostbite.

Did you hear about the ski trip?  
It started off fine, but went downhill fast.

What did Santa and Mrs. Claus name their daughter?  
Mary Christmas.

Why does Santa use GPS?  
He doesn't want to be a lost Claus.

Do snow globes ever get scared?  
No, just shaken.

Why can't penguins fly?  
They're not tall enough to be pilots.

