

# Trivia



The Crown Jewels contain the two biggest cut diamonds on Earth. They both came from the Cullinan Diamond, a 3,106-carat gem found in South Africa in 1905. The largest stone, called the Great Star of Africa, is in the Sovereign's Sceptre, while the second largest is mounted in the Imperial State Crown.

Baby sea otters can't swim. Their moms will wrap them in pieces of kelp while they hunt until the buoyant pups learn how to paddle around on their own. A raft of otters will also hold hands while they sleep so they don't drift apart!

There's a world record for the most world record titles. It belongs to Brooklyn, New York resident Ashrita Furman, who's held more than 600 Guinness World Records in his lifetime, ranging from heaviest shoes walked in (323 pounds) to most baseballs held in a baseball glove (26).

The Kola Superdeep Borehole in Russia is the world's deepest hole. It is 7.5 miles deep, but interestingly, only 9 inches wide.

At the 1908 Olympics, the Russian team showed up 12 days late because they were using the Julian calendar instead of the Gregorian calendar.

Geologic activity around the Ring of Fire in the Pacific Ocean is responsible for roughly 90% of all earthquakes worldwide.

You actually can see Russia from Alaska. Given the correct weather conditions in the Bering Sea, you can see the island of Big Diomedes, Russia, from the smaller island of Little Diomedes, Alaska.

According to legend, we hang stockings by the chimney with care thanks to a poor man who didn't have enough money for his three daughters' dowries. Generous old St. Nick dropped a bag of gold down their chimney one night, where the girls had hung their stockings to dry. That's where the gold ended up, and how the tradition began.



(goodhousekeeping.com, sporcle.com)

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# Product Spotlight

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# Dates in History

- 1776** On December 25th, General George Washington led 2,400 troops on a daring nighttime crossing of the Delaware river allowing the continental army to launch a successful surprise attack on British forces in New Jersey. Washington's crossing of the frozen Delaware was a crucial rallying cry for the continental army.
- 1804** On December 2nd, in Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, Napoleon Bonaparte was crowned Napoleon I, the first Frenchman to hold the title of emperor in a thousand years. Pope Pius VII handed Napoleon the crown that the 35-year-old conqueror of Europe placed on his own head.
- 1901** On December 10th, the first Nobel Prizes were awarded in Stockholm, Sweden, in the fields of physics, chemistry, medicine, literature, and peace. The ceremony came on the fifth anniversary of the death of Alfred Nobel, the Swedish inventor of dynamite and other high explosives. In his will, Nobel directed that the bulk of his vast fortune be placed in a fund in which the interest would be "annually distributed in the form of prizes to those who, during the preceding year, shall have conferred the greatest benefit on mankind."
- 1903** On December 17th, near Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, Orville and Wilbur Wright made the first successful flight in history of a self-propelled, heavier-than-air aircraft.
- 1973** On December 28th, president Richard Nixon signed the Endangered Species Act into law. The act, which Nixon called for the previous year, is considered one of the most significant and influential environmental laws in American history.

([britannica.com](http://britannica.com) & [history.com](http://history.com))

# On the Lighter Side



Who did Santa take to the party?  
Dancer.

What did the buffalo say to his son when he left for college?  
Bison.

If athletes get athlete's foot, what do elves get?  
Mistle-toes!

What did Mrs. Claus say to Santa on Christmas night?  
You better take an umbrella, it looks like reindeer.

Dad puts the car in reverse.  
"Ahh, this takes me back."

"Do you have reservations?" asked the host  
"Yeah, but I think we'll still eat here."

I read a history of sandpaper recently...The guy who invented it wasn't sure how to go about it but he had a rough idea.

A lycanthrope transforms in front of his friend for the first time. "You just turned into a wolf!"  
"Yes I am a were."

What do you call a kid who doesn't believe in Santa?  
A rebel without a Claus.

I found a spider in my shoes. He looks ridiculous, they're way too big for him.

I asked my wife what she wanted for Christmas. She told me, "Nothing would make her happier than a diamond necklace." So I bought her nothing.

Why does Santa Claus go down the chimney on Christmas Eve?  
Because it soot's him.



([rocketcitymom.com](http://rocketcitymom.com), [lovetoknow.com](http://lovetoknow.com), [buzzfeed.com](http://buzzfeed.com), [parade.com](http://parade.com))