JUST FOR FUN

1fun - Numbers Quiz

The answers to all 11 of these questions are numbers:

1. How many months in a decade?
2. How many colors are on the French flag?
3. How many times does the word “One” appear on a dollar bill?
4. How many South American countries do not border on an ocean?
5. What is the area code for Iceland?
6. What is the total number of eyes pictured on all the kings, queens, and jacks in a standard deck of cards?
7. How many sides does an icosahedron have?
8. How many properties can be bought in a Monopoly game?
9. What number of years was mentioned at the start of the Gettysburg address?
10. What number is “acht” in German, “huit” in French, and “ocho” in Spanish?
11. In the U.S., how many states have more than one word in their names?

Answers:
1. 120;  2. 3;  3. 8;  4. 2;  5. 353;  6. 42;  7. 20;  8. 28;  9. 87;  10. 8;  11. 10

2fun - The “Only” Quiz

1. What is the only mammal that cannot jump? It is also the only animal with four knees.
2. What is the only bird that “drops” its upper eyelids to wink?
3. What is the only North American rodent that barks like a dog?
4. What is the only insect that creates food for human consumption?
5. What is the only insect that produces a fiber used for cloth?
6. What is the only bird that can fly backwards?
7. What is the only animal whose evidence is admissible in an American court of law?
8. What is the only winged mammal that can fly?
9. What is the only animal that can develop sunburn?
10. What is the only female animal with antlers?

Answers:
1. The elephant.  2. The owl.  3. The prairie dog.  4. The honeybee.  5. The silkworm.  6. The hummingbird.  7. The bloodhound.  8. The bat.  9. The pig.  10. The reindeer.

3fun - Quiz For People Who Know Everything

These are not trick questions. They are straight questions with straight answers.

1. Name the one sport in which neither the spectators nor the participants know the score or the leader until the contest ends.
2. What famous North American landmark is constantly moving backward?
3. Of all vegetables, only two can live to produce on their own for several growing seasons. All other vegetables must be replanted every year. What are the only two perennial vegetables?
4. What fruit has its seeds on the outside?
5. Only three words in standard English begin with the letters “dw” and they are all common words. Name two of them.
6. There are 14 punctuation marks in English grammar. Can you name at least half of them?
7. Name the only vegetable or fruit that is never sold frozen, canned, processed, cooked, or in any other form except fresh.
8. Name 6 or more things that you can wear on your feet beginning with the letter “S.”
   Answers
1. Boxing
2. Niagara Falls (the rim is worn down about two and a half feet each year because of the millions of gallons of water that rush over it every minute).
3. Asparagus and rhubarb
4. Strawberry
5. Dwarf, dwell and dwindle
6. Period, comma, colon, semicolon, dash, hyphen, apostrophe, question mark, exclamation point, quotation marks, brackets, parenthesis, braces, and ellipsis
7. Lettuce
8. Shoes, socks, sandals, sneakers, slippers, skis, skates, snowshoes, stockings, stilts

4fun - Scrabble
When you rearrange the letters in the first words, they become:
DORMITORY becomes DIRTY ROOM
ASTRONOMER becomes MOON STARER
THE EYES becomes THEY SEE
THE MORSE CODE becomes HERE COME DOTS
SLOT MACHINES becomes CASH LOST IN ME
SNOOZE ALARMS becomes ALAS! NO MORE Z’S
A DECIMAL POINT becomes IM A DOT IN PLACE
ELEVEN PLUS TWO becomes TWELVE PLUS ONE

5fun - It’s So Punny!
A bicycle can’t stand on its own because it is two-tired.
What’s the definition of a will? It’s a dead giveaway.
Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.
A backwards poet writes inverse.
She had a boyfriend with a wooden leg, but broke it off.
A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.
If you don’t pay your exorcist you get repossessed.
With her marriage she got a new name and a dress.
Show me a piano falling down a mine shaft and I’ll show you A-flat minor.
When a clock is hungry, it goes back four seconds.
The man who fell into an upholstery machine is fully recovered.
You feel stuck with your debt if you can’t budge it.
He often broke into song because he couldn’t find the key.
Every calendar’s days are numbered.
A boiled egg in the morning is hard to beat.
The short fortune teller who escaped from prison was a small medium at large.
those who get too big for their britches will be exposed in the end.
Once you’ve seen one shopping center you’ve seen a mall.
Those who jump off a Paris bridge are in Seine.
When an actress saw her first strands of gray hair she thought she’d dye.
Bakers trade bread recipes on a knead to know basis.
Santa’s helpers are subordinate clauses.
Acupuncture is a jab well done.
Marathon runners with bad footwear suffer the agony of defeat.

6fun - The Perfect Job
My first job was working in an orange juice factory, but I got canned…couldn’t concentrate.
After that I tried to be a tailor, but I just wasn’t suited for it…mainly because it was a so-so job.
Then I tried to be a chef—figured it would add a little spice to my life, but I just didn’t have the thyme.
Next I tried working in a muffler factory but that was too exhausting.
I managed to get a good job working for a pool maintenance company, but the work was just too draining.
I attempted to be a deli worker, but anyway I sliced it, I couldn’t cut the mustard.
Then I worked in the woods as a lumberjack, but I just couldn’t hack it, so they gave me the ax.
Next was a job in a shoe factory; I tried but I just didn’t fit in.
After many years of trying to find steady work I finally got a job as a historian until I realized there was no future in it.
I studied a long time to become a doctor, but I didn’t have any patience.
My best job was being a musician, but eventually I found I wasn’t noteworthy.
I became a professional fisherman, but discovered that I couldn’t live on my net income.
My last job was working at Starbucks, but I had to quit because it was always the same old grind.
So I retired and found I’m perfect for the job!

Food Trivia

7fun - Facts About Chocolate
Other than the fact that it tastes wonderful, puts a smile on our faced and wreaks havoc on our diets, what do we really know about chocolate?

Aztecs were the first known consumers of chocolate. They brewed a beverage from cocoa seeds, which Spanish explorers liked and took back to Europe with them about 1500. In 1657 a shop in London offered a chocolate beverage at very high prices. As the drink became fashionable, shops sprung up all over the city. These shops became social centers for philosophical and political discussion.
Chocolate was first manufactured in the United States in 1765 at Milton Lowes Mills, Massachusetts. Today, the U.S. has the world’s largest chocolate manufacturing industry.

8fun - Chocolate Trivia

• The first brownie recipe appeared in the 1896 edition of the Fannie Farmer Cookbook.
• King Louis XIV of France established the position of Royal Chocolate Maker to the King.
• Chocolate manufacturers use 40% of the world’s almonds and 20% of the world’s peanuts.
• One plain milk chocolate candy bar has more protein than a banana.
• The melting of cocoa butter is just below the human body temperature, which is why it literally melts in your mouth.

9fun - Accidental Food Inventions

Do you ever feel bad because you made a mistake? Some mistakes aren’t all bad. Take these sweet ideas that came from mistakes!

Popsicles: In 1905 eleven-year-old Frank Epperson was mixing powdered soda and water to make soda pop. Frank accidentally left the mixing bucket outside. During the night the mixture froze solid, with the wooden stirring stick standing straight up. But the frozen pop tasted great.

Chocolate Chip Cookies: In 1930, Ruth Wakefield was making chocolate cookies at the Toll House Inn in Whitman, Mass. When she ran out of baking chocolate, Ruth broke a bar of semi-sweet chocolate into little pieces and added them to the dough. When the cookies were baked, the chocolate hadn’t melted. Instead there were little chips of chocolate throughout the cookie. Ruth was soon selling chocolate chip cookies.

Potato Chips: One day in 1853, a diner at Moon Lake Lodge in Saratoga Springs, New York, refused to eat an order of French fries because they were too thick. The chef, George Crum, decided to teach the diner a lesson. He sliced a potato paper-thin and fried it so heavily it could not be cut with a fork. But the customer loved it.

Ice Cream Cones: Ernest Hamwi was selling Syrian pastry at the St. Louis World’s Fair in 1904. When a nearby ice cream vendor ran out of dishes, Hamwi rolled some pastry into a cone so ice cream could be put inside. The ice cream cone was a huge hit.

10fun - What's the Scoop?

There is nothing more refreshing than a scoop of ice cream on a hot summer day! So it is no surprise that there is more ice cream consumed during the summer than any other time of the year. The International Dairy Foods Association reports that the average American consumes almost 22 pounds of ice cream per year. Did you know that it takes approximately 50 licks to polish off a single scoop of ice cream? Vanilla remains the most popular flavor among consumers, followed by Mint Chocolate Chip and Cookies & Cream.

Is your mouth watering yet? If so, grab a gallon of your favorite ice cream and treat yourself to one of America’s favorite summer desserts!

11fun - Watermelon Fun Facts
• Watermelon is grown in over 96 countries worldwide.
• In China and Japan, watermelon is a popular gift to bring a host.
• In Israel and Egypt, the sweet taste of watermelon is often paired with the salty taste of feta cheese.
• Watermelon is 92% water.
• By weight, watermelon is the most-consumed melon in the U.S., followed by cantaloupe and honeydew.
• Early explorers used watermelons as canteens.
• Watermelon is an ideal health food because it doesn’t contain any fat or cholesterol and is an excellent source of vitamins A, B6 and C.
• Over 1,200 varieties of watermelon are grown worldwide.
• Every part of a watermelon is edible, even the seeds and rinds.
• The first recorded watermelon harvest occurred nearly 5,000 years ago in Egypt.

Trivia

Trivia 1
• The only 15-letter word that can be spelled without repeating a letter is uncopyrightable.
• The words facetious and abstemious contain all the vowels in the correct order.
• Emus and kangaroos cannot walk backwards, and are on the Australian coat of arms for that reason.
• Cats have over 100 vocal sounds, while dogs have only about 10.
• The word “checkmate” in chess comes from the Persian phrase “shah mat,” which means “the king is dead.”
• Pinocchio is Italian for “pine head.”
• The airplane Buddy Holly died in was called “American Pie” (thus the name of the Don McLean song.)

Trivia 2
• The only nation whose name begins with an “A” but doesn’t end in an “A” is Afghanistan.
• If you toss a penny 10,000 times, it will not be heads 5,000 times, but more like 4,950. The heads picture weighs more, so it ends up on the bottom.
• “Stewardesses” is the longest word that is typed with only the left hand.
• The phrase “sleep tight” derives from the fact that early mattresses were filled with straw and held up with rope stretched across the bed frame. A tight sleep was a comfortable sleep.

Trivia 3
• If a statue of a person on a horse has both front legs in the air, the person died in battle. If the horse has one front leg in the air, the person died as a result of wounds received in battle. If the horse has all four legs on the ground, the person died of natural causes.
• No word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver and purple.
• Clans of long ago that wanted to get rid of their unwanted people without killing them used to
burn their houses down—hence the expression “to get fired.”

Trivia 4
• The “pound” key on your keyboard (#) is called an octotroph.
• The only domestic animal not mentioned in the Bible is the cat.
• The dot over the letter “i” is called a tittle.
• Honey is the only natural food that is made without destroying any kind of life.
• Tigers have striped skin, not just striped fur.
• Hummingbirds are the only animal that can fly backwards.
• A cat’s jaw cannot move sideways.

Trivia 5
• All gondolas in Venice, Italy must be painted black, unless they belong to a high official.
• It takes 17 muscles to smile – 43 to frown.
• The term “devil’s advocate” comes from the Roman Catholic Church. When deciding if someone should be sainted, a devil’s advocate is always appointed to give an alternative view.
• The Baby Ruth candy bar was actually named after Grover Cleveland’s baby daughter, Ruth.

Trivia 6
• Baskin Robbins once made ketchup ice cream. This was the only vegetable flavored ice cream produced.
• Ohio is the only U.S. state without a rectangular flag. Ohio’s flag is a pennant.
• The only active diamond mine in the United States is in Arkansas.
• The average U.S. male will spend 2,965 hours shaving during his lifetime.
• The Eiffel Tower is painted approximately once every seven years and requires nearly 50 tons of paint each time.

Trivia 7
• Star Trek’s Captain James T. Kirk’s middle name is Tiberius.
• The harmonica is the world’s best-selling musical instrument.
• Major League Baseball teams use about 850,000 balls per season.
• More personal telephone calls are made on Mother’s Day in the USA than on any other day in any other country.

Trivia 8
• There are 119 grooves on the edge of a quarter.
• Thirty gallons of water are used for the average shower in the United States.
• The San Francisco cable cars are the only mobile National Monuments.
• Ferdinand Porsche, who later went on to build sports cars bearing his name, designed the original 1936 Volkswagen.
Trivia 9
• There are 1,792 steps to the top of the Eiffel Tower, 132 rooms in the White House, and 403 steps from the foundation to the top of the torch in the Statue of Liberty.
• The Mayflower was not much larger than a modern tennis court, but it held 102 people.
• ZIP code 12345 is assigned to General Electric in Schenectady, New York.
• The odds of hitting the jackpot on a slot machine are 889 to 1.

Trivia 10
• In 1779 Margaret Corbin was the first woman to be awarded a disability pension by the U.S. Congress. She fought in the Revolutionary War.
• The average person walks the equivalent of twice around the world in a lifetime.
• The state of Maine has 62 lighthouses.
• The Tower of London has housed a zoo, observatory, mint, prison, royal palace and is currently the home of the Crown Jewels.

Trivia 11
• The Disney film Mary Poppins (from 1964) was shot entirely indoors.
• A dog was killed by a meteor in Egypt in 1911. The canine is the only creature known to have been killed by a meteor.
• Isaac Newton dropped out of school when he was a teenager, at his mother’s request. She hoped he would become a successful farmer.
• There’s enough energy in ten minutes of one hurricane to match the nuclear stockpiles of the world.

Trivia 12
• The average person laughs about 15 times a day.
• The first U.S. zoo was built in Philadelphia in 1876.
• The water in the Great Salt Lake of Utah is more than four times as salty as any ocean.
• The average bank teller loses about $250 every year.
• Two in every three car buyers pay the sticker price without negotiating.

Trivia 13
• Tootsie Rolls were the first wrapped penny candy in America.
• Halloween is the second most commercially successful holiday, with Christmas being the first.
• The first jack-o-lanterns were made out of turnips.
• The average American consumes roughly 24 pounds of candy per year.

Trivia 14
• The Museum of Modern Art in New York hung Matisse’s “Le Bateau” upside-down for 47 days before an art student noticed the error.
• The bloodhound is the only animal whose evidence is admissible in an American court.
• There is only one “Q” in a Scrabble game.
• One plain milk chocolate candy bar has more protein than a banana.

Trivia 15
• There is a Santa Claus, Arizona and Indiana; a Noel, Missouri; and a Christmas, Arizona and Florida.
• Christmas Club bank accounts began in 1905.
• Did you know that the animal cracker boxes were designed with a string handle to be hung as decorations on a Christmas tree?
• There were three alternative names for Tiny Tim in Dickens’ A Christmas Carol—Little Larry, Puny Pete and Small Sam.

Trivia 16
• The liquid inside young coconuts can be used as a substitute for blood plasma.
• No piece of paper can be folded in half more than seven times.
• You burn more calories sleeping than you do watching television.
• Oak trees do not produce acorns until they are fifty years of age or older.
• The first product to have a bar code was Wrigley’s gum.
• The King of Hearts is the only king in a deck of cards without a mustache.

Trivia 17
• Venus is the only planet that rotates clockwise.
• Apples, not caffeine, are more efficient at waking you up in the morning.
• The first owner of the Marlboro Company died of lung cancer. So did the first “Marlboro Man.”
• Walt Disney was afraid of mice.
• Pearls melt in vinegar.

Trivia 18
• A pack-a-day smoker will lose approximately 2 teeth every 10 years.
• When you sneeze, all bodily functions stop, even your heart!
• Only 7 percent of the population is left-handed.
• Babies are born without kneecaps. They don’t appear until they are 2-6 years old.
• The average person over 50 years old will have spent almost 5 years waiting in lines.
• The toothbrush was invented in 1498.

Trivia 19
• The average housefly lives for one month.
• A wire coat hanger is 44 inches long when straightened.
• Your feet are bigger in the afternoon than any other time of day.
• The real reason ostriches stick their head in the sand is to search for water.
• The only two animals that can see behind themselves without turning their heads are the rabbit
and the parrot.

**Trivia 20**

- In most television commercials advertising milk, a mixture of white paint and a little thinner is used in place of the milk.
- Prince Charles and Prince William never travel on the same airplane, just in case there is a crash.
- The first Harley Davidson motorcycle, built in 1903, used a tomato can for a carburetor.
- Humphrey Bogart was related to Princess Diana. They were 7th cousins.
- If coloring weren’t added to Coca-Cola, it would be green.