# Trivia

#### did you know that ...

The first person to look into space with a telescope was Galileo, nearly 400 years ago.

On average, the moon is 238,750 miles (384,400 km) from Earth, or about 30 Earth widths away.

Based on the average life of a G2 star, the present age of the sun is estimated to be 4.6 billion years, halfway through its lifetime.

Between 1947 and 1969, 12,618 UFO sightings were reported to Project Blue Book, a UFO research agency that was headquartered at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

UFOs were initially called "flying saucers," but the more neutral phrase "unidentified flying objects," or UFOs, was later coined by the U.S. Air Force in 1953 to include shapes other than "saucers" or "discs.

Nearly 1,600 Saturns could fit inside the Sun.

The average temperature on Venus' surface is about 870° Fahrenheit, making it the hottest planet in the solar system and hotter than most ovens.

For 76 years, Pluto was considered a planet. However, when astronomers discovered that it was just one of many large objects within the Kuiper belt, Pluto was renamed a "dwarf planet" in 2006.

More than 80% of the Earth's surface is volcanic.

The average distance between stars is 20 million miles.

There is no sound in space.

The sun is not actually yellow. Because the temperature of the sun is 6,000° K (5,726.85° C, 10,340.33° F), it can be only one color: white. It appears yellow from Earth because of our atmosphere, which tints it yellow.

The word "planet" comes from the Greek word planetai for "wanderer."

Dixon Valve & Coupling Company 800 High Street, Chestertown, MD 21620 The Right Connection<sup>6</sup>

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"Published once a moon since 1932'

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2014



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## **Dates in** History

- 1775 On April 9th at about 5am, 700 British troops on a mission to capture Patriot leaders and seize a Patriot arsenal marched into Lexington, Massachusetts. They found 77 armed minutemen under Captain John Parker waiting for them on the town's common green. British Major John Pitcaim ordered the outnumbered Patriots to disperse, and after a moment's hesitation the Americans began to drift off the green. Suddenly, the "shot heard around the world" was fired from an undetermined gun causing the start of American Revolution.
- On April 3rd, the first Pony Express mail, 1860 traveling by horse and rider relay teams, simultaneously left St. Joseph, Missouri, and Sacramento, California. Ten days later, on April 13, the westbound rider and mail packet completed the approximately 1,800 mile journey and arrived in Sacramento, beating the eastbound packet's arrival in St. Joseph by two days and setting a new standard for speedy mail delivery.
- On April 1st, after suffering the loss of 116 1945 planes and damage to three aircraft carriers, 50,000 U.S. combat troops of the 10th Army, under the command of Lieutenant General Simon B. Buckner Jr., landed on the southwest coast of the Japanese island of Okinawa to set up a base of operations for a later assault on mainland Japan.
- On April 11th, Apollo 13, the third lunar 1970 landing mission, was successfully launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida, carrying astronauts James A. Lovell, John L. Swigert, and Fred W. Haise. The spacecraft's destination was the Fra Mauro highlands of the moon but after an oxygen tank exploded on the evening of April 13th, the new mission objective became to get the Apollo 13 crew home alive.

# On the **Lighter Side**

"Hi! My name is Gertrude," said the lady sitting next to a young man on the plane. "It's so nice to meet you! I'm flying to New York for my grandson's third birthday. I'm so excited! I remember when he was just a little thumbkin and now he's already three! It's really hard to believe. He's the most adorable thing you've ever seen! You know what? Hold on, I think I might have a picture on me. Let me take a look in my purse, yes, here it is, just look at him, isn't he adorable. Do you see his dimple on his left cheek? Simply adorable! I could stare at his picture all day.

Oh my, and you should hear him on the phone! He is just the cutest, he says to me in the cutest voice, "Hi Grandma!" It just gets me all teary eyed." After what seemed like two hours for the poor man sitting next to her, Gertrude seemed to realize that perhaps she was talking a bit too much. "You know, I feel terrible. Here I am just talking and talking without letting you get in a word edgewise!

Tell me..what do you think about my Grandson?!"

"And this over here," said the 90 year old museum tour guide, "is a fossil 4 million and 69 years old, on it's left you can see another fossil that's 2 million and 69 years old."

"Wow! That's really fascinating," said a fellow in the audience, "how can you age it so accurately to the year?" "Well that's simple," answered the old chap. "It was two million years old when I started working here 69 years ago."

I lovingly gave my niece a kiss on her cheek upon seeing her at a family get-together. Afterwards, I noticed her wiping her cheek. "Are you wiping off my kiss?", I asked her. "No", she smartly replied, "I'm just rubbing it in!"

(history.com)

