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35. A premature baby who was cared for by a nurse grew up to become her colleague 28 years later. The two were reunited after the nurse discovered that she had taken care of a baby with the same last name decades ago.

https://people.com/human-interest/california-nurse-discovers-baby-colleague-years-later/

36. In 2011, 61-year-old Steve Whiteley turned his £2 bet into a £1.5 million jackpot. He picked all six race winners to hit the fortune. The horse that won the last race had lost all 28 previous races.

https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2011/mar/08/steve-whiteley-tote-jackpot-millionaire

37. When a major bridge collapsed in Oklahoma in 2002, William James Clark, a two-time convicted felon, posed as a US Army Captain and took command of the site. He led the disaster rescue team, supervised the FBI officials, commandeered the rescue vehicles and equipment, and fled the scene two days later.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/I-40_bridge_disaster#cite_note-5
https://www.adn.com/features/article/curious-cases-william-james-clark/2011/08/26/

38. A thoughtful mama hummingbird built a nest with a leafy roof to raise her babies. Hummingbirds also have the smallest nests in the world!

Photographed by Bianca Caroline Soares.

https://www.thedodo.com/in-the-wild/hummingbird-builds-nest-with-roof

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31. A "fire tornado" is a rare whirlwind that occurs when turbulent air conditions combine with the intense rising heat, mostly as a result of ghastly wildfires. With a wind speed of over 200 km/h, the tornado can reach a temperature of up to 2,000 °F.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fire_whirl#cite_note-2

32. Researchers have discovered that placing underwater speakers playing sounds of healthy coral reefs in dead patches of the Great Barrier Reef helps in reviving the area. They found that twice as many fish visited the areas where speakers were placed compared to places without speakers.

https://nexusmedianews.com/scientists-use-audio-recordings-of-healthy-coral-reefs-to-draw-fish-to-dead-reefs-766d5c91c743

https://www.reddit.com/r/todayilearned/comments/ho6krs/til_scientists_discovered_broadcasting_the_sound/

33. Ina Koenig, a kindergarten teacher in Germany, dove into a 75-foot mine shaft after a three-year-old student accidentally fell down in it. For two hours, Ina kept the toddler's head above the freezing water, saving his life until help arrived.

https://www.growingyourbaby.com/teacher-plunges-into-75ft-deep-shaft-to-save-3-year-olds-life/
https://www.reddit.com/r/todayilearned/comments/d3cbeu/til_of_ina_koenig_a_german_kindergarten_teacher/

34. In 1859, Thomas Austin imported 24 wild rabbits from England for hunting. He released them into the wild in Australia that had no original, native rabbit population. Their population

swelled to 10 billion by the 1920s, that is, less than 70 years since their introduction in the country.
http://www.rabbitfreeaustralia.com.au/rabbits/the-rabbit-problem/#:~:text=Rabbits%20are%20not%20native%20to,Control%20costs%2C%20and

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28. On 26 September 1983, Stanislav Petrov, an officer in the Soviet Air Defense Forces, received an alert that five nuclear missiles had been launched from an American base against the Soviet Union. Rightly assuming it was a false alarm, Petrov did not launch a retaliatory attack, thereby averting an all-out nuclear war. He died in 2017 at age 77.

https://www.nytimes.com/2017/09/18/world/europe/stanislav-petrov-nuclear-war-dead.html

https://i.redd.it/4d9qnkjr1j951.jpg

29. Five Lithuanian soldiers from a reconnaissance unit were declared missing during a military drill. Forces were sent to find them. Thinking the exercise was still on, they evaded the search party which included dogs and a helicopter. Their survival performance was rated exemplary!

https://www.lrt.lt/en/news-in-english/19/1141404/missing-conscripts-stay-in-forest-thinking-drill-still-ongoing

https://www.reddit.com/r/todayilearned/comments/hm6zet/til_that_five_lithuanian_soldiers_serving_in_a/

30. This is *Gigantura indica,* popularly known as “telescopefish.” It has large, tubular eyes with huge lenses, apparently for spotting bioluminescent prey in the deepest, darkest oceans.

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24. There are contact lenses that are to be worn during sleep. They reshape the cornea temporarily overnight to improve vision so that you can go all day long without glasses or lenses.

https://www.aao.org/eye-health/glasses-contacts/what-is-orthokeratology

25. American pilot Charlie Brown's fighter aircraft was severely damaged by the German troops during World War II. German pilot Franz Stigler spotted Brown's crippled aircraft and noticed that his gunner was dead with half of his crew wounded. Assuming no threat, he escorted the aircraft to safety instead of shooting it down. Fifty years later, Brown tracked down Stigler and the two became friends.

https://edition.cnn.com/2013/03/09/living/higher-call-military-chivalry/index.html?hpt=hp_c2

26. Audrina Cardenas was born with her heart outside her body on 15 October 2012. Only eight out of one million babies are born with such deformities. Most of them die within three days of their birth. But after a surgery, her heart was tucked back into her chest, and she'll soon turn eight years old!

https://abcnews.go.com/Health/baby-born-heart-body-leaves-texas-hospital/story?id=18313959
https://www.webmd.com/baby/ectopia-cordis-overview#1

27. Some sling bullets, dating back to the fourth century BCE, were excavated from the ancient city of Athens, Greece. They have the Greek word *ΔΕΞΑΙ* (*DEXAI*) inscribed on them. It means "Take that!"
https://www.livescience.com/55049-photos-ancient-roman-battle-sling-bullets.html

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20. In Thailand, monkeys are trained to climb trees and harvest coconuts. While a male monkey is capable of picking over 1,000 coconuts a day, humans cannot pick more than 80 coconuts per day, on average.

https://www.bbc.com/news/business-53276071

21. The remains of an unknown baby whose body was recovered five days after the *Titanic* sank, were exhumed decades later. A DNA test confirmed that the 19-month-old baby belonged to the Goodwin family that drowned in the mishap. The “Unknown Child,” who was buried by the sailors, was finally identified in 2007 as Sidney Goodwin from England.

https://www.livescience.com/13859-titanic-unknown-child-identification-sidney-goodwin.html

22. A fish whose eye was removed due to cataract was bullied by fellow fishes at the Vancouver Aquarium. So, the vets gave the fish a prosthetic eye to fool the other fishes.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/speaking-of-science/wp/2015/01/16/this-rockfish-was-getting-bullied-for-having-one-eye-so-doctors-gave-it-a-prosthetic/

23. In 1980, photographer Robert Landsburg was clicking pictures of Mount St. Helens’ volcano eruption. When he realized he wouldn't be able to survive the rapidly approaching ash cloud, he quickly rewound the film back into its case and stuffed the camera in his backpack. He laid on the backpack to protect the film for future researchers.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Landsburg

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16. Photographer Drew Gardner recreates the portraits of famous American historical figures. His recent work features Shannon LaNier, the sixth great-grandson of America's third president, Thomas Jefferson. LaNier is a descendant of Jefferson and his slave, Sally Hemings, and chose to not wear a wig to help recreate Jefferson's famous portrait more faithfully.

https://petapixel.com/2020/07/02/thomas-jefferson-portrait-recreated-by-his-sixth-great-grandson/

https://www.reddit.com/r/Damnthatsinteresting/comments/hksth8/thomas_jeffersons_sixth_great_grandson_recreates/

17. If you think Voldemort is the freakiest looking fictional character ever, hold on! This is the original design of what Voldemort was supposed to look like in the film. The filmmakers, however, didn't choose this and opted for the one that we see in the *Harry Potter* movies.

https://goat.com.au/entertainment/voldemorts-original-design-will-rob-you-of-sweet-dreams-forever/

https://www.reddit.com/r/interestingasfuck/comments/hks6mr/this_was_the_first_ever_design_of_voldemort_which/

18. Timothy Ray Brown, popularly known as “The Berlin Patient,” is the first person to be cured of HIV. He was diagnosed with Leukemia in 2006 and underwent a bone marrow transplant as part of his treatment in 2007. Thanks to the rare, HIV-resistant donor, the transplant helped him overcome the otherwise incurable disease.

https://www.thebodypro.com/article/timothy-ray-brown-prep

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https://www.thebody.com/article/this-positive-life-life-after-being-cured

https://www.reddit.com/r/interestingasfuck/comments/hktcg5/cured_of_hiv/

19. The world's cheapest Michelin Star meal can be scored in Singapore for just $4. Chan Hon Meng, a street-food seller popularly known as "Hawker Chan," has bagged a Michelin Star for his iconic dish Soya Sauce Chicken Rice & Noodle. His outlet, Liao Fan, has taken Singapore street food to new culinary heights.
https://edition.cnn.com/travel/article/singapore-cheapest-michelin-star-restaurant/index.html

https://www.reddit.com/r/todayilearned/comments/h9guwl/til_that_singapores_street_food_is_so_good_that/

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11. Elephants seldom get cancer, thanks to an extra cancer-fighting gene. This gene recognizes dangerous cells and helps the body kill the damaged DNA before they become cancerous.
https://www.nationalgeographic.com/science/2018/08/news-cancer-elephants-genes-dna-new-research/

12. Director Andrew Niccol bought 3,000 AK-47 rifles for his film *Lord of War* as it was cheaper to use real guns and resell them than buying props. Fifty tanks were also sourced from a dealer in the Czech Republic, but they were only available for a short time as the source needed to sell them in Libya.

https://www.cinemablend.com/news/2472161/why-lord-of-war-starring-nicolas-cage-bought-3000-real-guns-instead-of-props

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13. A 2,000-year-old mummy of a Chinese woman, Xin Zhui, also known as “Lady Dai,” was preserved in 21 gallons of an “unknown liquid.” With her original hair, organs, eyebrows, and eyelashes intact, the mummy still has blood in her veins. Her skin and ligaments are soft and as flexible as that of a living person.

https://allthatsinteresting.com/xin-zhui-lady-dai

14. During World War II, a German captain and an engineer wrongly flushed the submarine's high-tech toilet, causing the vessel to rapidly take on water. As the submarine was taken to the surface, British planes patrolling the sea attacked them. While many crew members died in the attack, the captain survived!

https://news.yahoo.com/toilet-sunk-deadly-nazi-submarine-060000431.html

15. Astronomers have discovered a massive black hole that devours gas and dust equivalent to the mass of one Sun every day. Named “J2157,” it is the fastest-growing black hole in the universe!

https://www.zmescience.com/science/news-science/fastest-growing-black-hole-052352/

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5. William Harvey Carney was that first African-American soldier to be awarded the Medal of Honor. Despite being shot in the chest, arm, and legs, the soldier, who was born as a slave, held the American flag high, refusing to let it touch the ground and fall to the enemy. The Oscar-winning film *Glory* depicts the heroism of Carney.

https://homeofheroes.com/heroes-stories/civil-war/sergeant-william-carneys-flag/

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6. Gulabi (Pink) Gang, a group of women in India, punishes oppressive husbands, fathers, and brothers by shaming them in public or beating them up with “lathis” to combat domestic violence. The gang was established in 2006 by Sampat Devi in Uttar Pradesh after she, along with five other women, beat up an abusive husband who was mercilessly thrashing his wife.

https://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/features/2014/02/gulabi-gang-indias-women-warrriors-201422610320612382.html

https://gulabigang.in/history.php

7. Bill Haast injected snake venom into his blood for several years to immunize himself. Having been bitten over 172 times, he holds the Guinness World Record for surviving the most deadly snake bites. Bill became popular as “Snake Man” around the globe and lived for over 100 years.

http://www.billhaast.com/serpentarium/immunization_snakebites.html

8. Prisoners in Russia used a cat to sneak in 5.79 grams of hashish and 1.56 grams of amphetamine under its collar. The “Narco cat,” a key witness and evidence in the case, however, ran away from the kennel she was sheltered in after allegedly being scared off by dogs.

https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2019/10/16/narco-cat-run-key-piece-evidence-russian-drugs-trial-scared/

9. Artist Michelle Spalding revamps damaged and defaced pictures using Photoshop techniques. Some pictures require an effort of as long as 20 hours to restore, but the before and after pictures are totally incredible!

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https://www.boredpanda.com/photoshop-photo-restoration-michelle-spalding/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=organic&utm_campaign=organic

10. Similar to "rings of a tree," an ice core can tell the age of the ice sheet from which it was taken. This specimen extracted from Antarctica shows a dark band of volcanic ash that settled on the ice sheet as long as 21,000 years ago.

https://www.nsf.gov/news/news_summ.jsp?org=NSF&cntn_id=134908&preview=false

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1. Scientists have found that cockroach milk is more than four times as nutritious as cow milk! This “superfood” can act as a “fantastic protein supplement,” and it’s a great way to get quick calories and nutrients. They believe it can help in feeding our growing population in the future.

https://www.sciencealert.com/scientists-think-we-should-start-drinking-cockroach-milk-superfood

2. King Gustav III of Sweden hated the un-Swedish drink coffee so much that he carried out a scientific experiment to prove its health hazards. Accordingly, a prisoner convicted of murder was made to drink three pots of coffee every day. The king believed he'd soon die, but the man lived longer than even the physicians appointed to monitor him. In fact, he outlived Gustav himself!

https://www.history.com/news/this-king-hated-coffee-so-much-he-tried-to-kill-someone-with-it

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3. For 10 years, an Indian woman has been growing fruits, flowers, and vegetables without soil in a 450-square-foot terrace garden. She uses home-made compost prepared from dry leaves, kitchen waste, and cow dung instead of soil for gardening.
https://navbharattimes.indiatimes.com/viral-adda/life-hacks/soilless-gardening-pune-women-grows-vegetables-fruits-without-soil-42452/

https://www.thebetterindia.com/231202/soilless-terrace-garden-organic-vegetables-fruits-sugarcane-herbs-low-cost-pune-ros174/

4. Atlantic puffins usually mate with the same partner each year. They reunite at the same nest every year for breeding. Puffins share parental responsibilities equally. They take turns incubating the egg and feeding the chick once it hatches.

https://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/birds/a/atlantic-puffin/

https://ww2.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/bird-and-wildlife-guides/ask-an-expert/previous/puffinsmate.aspx