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TEACHING WITH PRIMARY SOURCES

April Fools Day and Primary Sources

Danna Bell dbell@loc.gov

Mule Barometer

DIRECTIONS

HANG OUTSIDE

If tail is dry..FAIR
If tail is wet..RAIN
If tail is swinging ..WINDY
If tail is wet and swinging..STORMY
If tail is frozen ..COLD

FURTHER INFORMATION UPON REQUEST.....

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The weather is fine here as you will notice when you consult the barometer.

Marie L. P.

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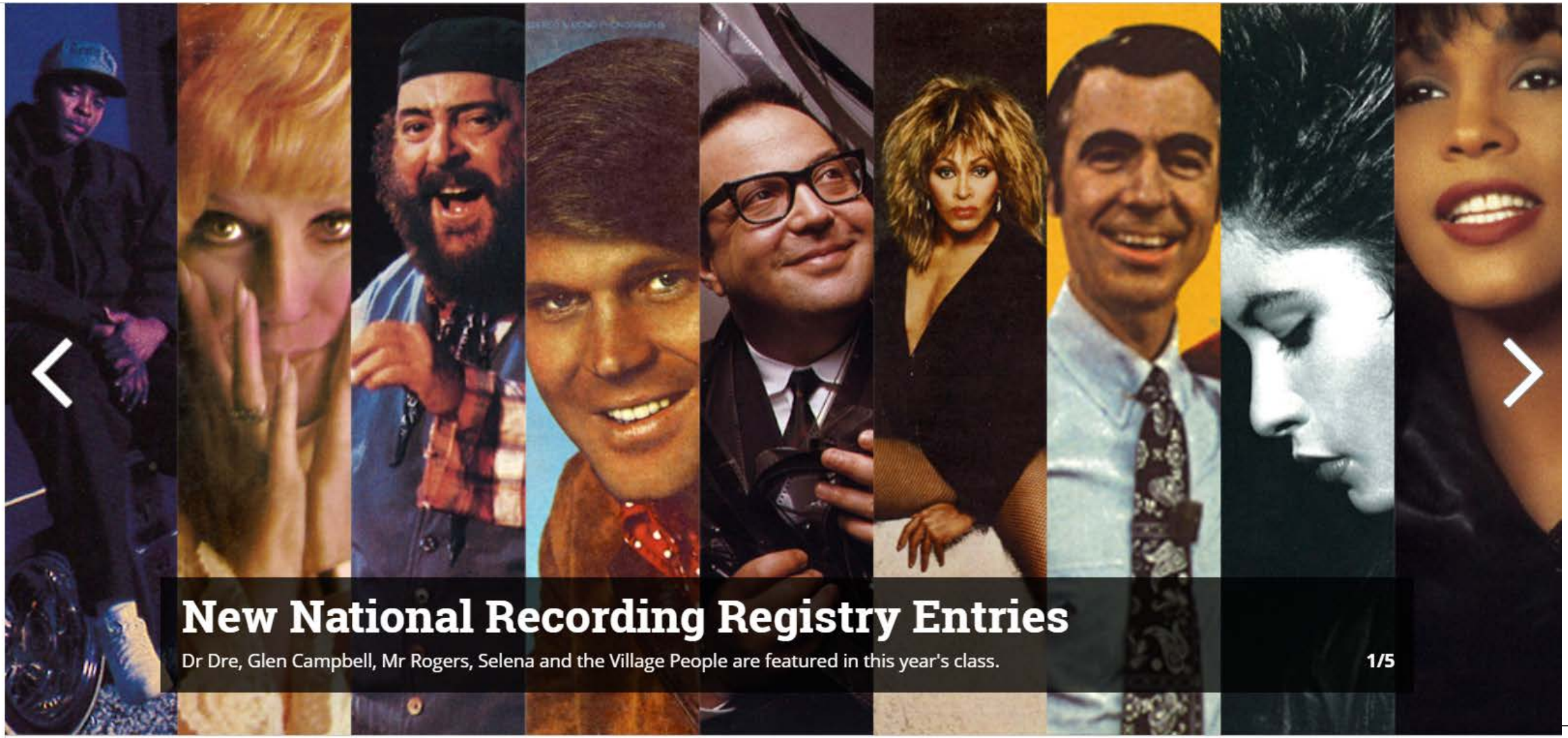

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Today in History - April 1

April Fool!

April 1, commonly known as April Fool's day, has long been an opportunity for children to tease their teachers. In an interview with a writer employed by the Works Progress Administration during the Great Depression, Mrs. Sally Marlowe of Marion, South Carolina, recalled:

> *We used to run off in the woods on April Fools' Day and stay till twelve o'clock noon come — then we would all show up to the schoolhouse. What you reckon they done to us for it? Kept us in school so late every evening that week till the moon would be shining bright enough to show us the road home.*
>
> "The Skippers." Sally Marlowe, interviewee; Annie Ruth Davis, interviewer; Marion, South Carolina, January 19, 1939. American Life Histories: Manuscripts from the Federal Writers' Project, 1936 to 1940. Manuscript Division

Old Heidelberg. c1905. Detroit Publishing Company. Prints & Photographs Division

Fairfield County, South Carolina.

> *April the 1st was dreaded by most rural school teachers. The pupils would get inside and bar the teacher out. The teacher, who didn't act on the principle that discretion is the better part of valor, generally got the worst of it. Mr. Douglass soon learned this, and, on April Fool's Day, he would walk to the school, perceive the situation, laughingly announce there would be no school until the morrow, and leave.*
>
> Dr. Samuel B. Lathan. W.W, Dixon, interviewer; Winnsboro, South Carolina, June 28, 1938. American Life Histories: Manuscripts from the Federal Writers' Project, 1936 to 1940. Manuscript Division

Learn More

- Search on *April Fool* in American Life Histories: Manuscripts from the Federal Writers' Project, 1936 to 1940 to find more tales of pranks and shenanigans. If your taste runs to practical jokes, take a look at "How Snipe Hunting Was Invented," in which pioneer Steve Robertson tells how one Brad Slocum, "one of these tender-actin' persons that was always wantin' somebody else to do it," got his just desserts.
- Search on *dog, humorous pictures,* or *animals in human situations* to find more silly pictures in the Detroit Publishing Company digital collection.
- The online collection The American Variety Stage: Vaudeville and Popular Entertainment, 1870-1920 contains many examples of comedy routines performed by vaudeville entertainers, including ten audio recordings. For a good laugh, tune in to "Henry's Music Lesson," or appreciate a time-tested joke routine to the accompaniment of a fiddler playing "The Arkansas Traveler." Or, listen to performers imitate various sounds such as a sawmill and a dog fight in "A Study in Mimicry."
- Search on *joke* in the collection Music for the Nation: American Sheet Music, ca. 1870 to 1885 to find humorous songs such as "Too Thin; or, Darwin's Little Joke" by O'Rangoutang.
- The digital collection Inventing Entertainment: The Early Motion Pictures and Sound Recordings of the Edison Companies includes many films in video format from the Library's collection of early copyrighted paper print films. Many early films show comic routines. *The Unappreciated Joke*, filmed by Thomas Edison, Inc. in 1903, shows a man on a subway attempting to entertain a fellow passenger who is not amused.
- In another early film, *An Animated Luncheon*, filmed February 1900, Edison exploits the newly discovered possibilities of film-splicing to create a gag.

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Chronicling America provides free access to millions of historic American newspaper pages. Listed here are topics widely covered in the American press of the time. We will be adding more topics on a regular basis. To find out what's new, sign up for Chronicling America's weekly notification service, that highlights interesting content on the site and lets you know when new newspapers and topics are added. Users can use the icons at the lower-left side of the Chronicling America Web page to subscribe. If you would like to suggest other topics, use the Ask a Librarian contact form available on the Newspaper and Current Periodical Reading Room site. Dates show the approximate range of sample articles.

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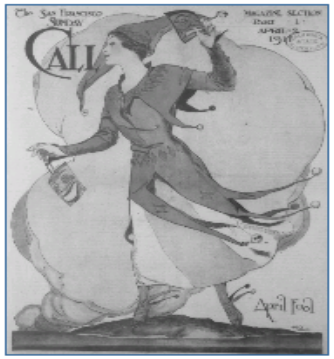
Topics in Chronicling America - April Fools' Day

"The first of April some do say, Was set apart for All Fools' Day: But why the people call it so, Nor I nor they themselves do know" begins the article in the San Francisco Call on April 1, 1900, which discusses the history and customs of "April Fool's Day," also known as "All Fools' Day." Read more about it!

The information and sample article links below provide access to a sampling of articles from historic newspapers that can be found in the *Chronicling America: American Historic Newspapers* digital collection (http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/). Use the Suggested Search Terms and Dates to explore this topic further in Chronicling America.

Jump to: Sample Articles



Important Dates:

- April 1. April Fools' Day celebrated by sending people on fruitless errands, giving inedible treats, and other pranks.

Suggested Search Strategies:

- *[Try the following terms in combination, proximity, or as phrases using Search Pages in Chronicling America.]* April Fool, All Fools' Day, prank, April 1
- It is important to use a specific date range if looking for articles for a particular event in order to narrow your results.

Sample Articles from Chronicling America:

- "Life in a Mining company in Montana. All Fools' Day at Canyon Ferry," *The Holt County Sentinel* (Oregon, MO), April 21, 1871, Page 1, Image 1, col. 6.
- "April Fool," *The Charleston Dailing News* (Charleston, SC), April 1, 1873, Page 2 Image 2, col. 2.
- "On All Fool's Day," *The Wichita Daily Eagle* (Wichita, KS), April 1, 1894, Sunday, Part Second, Page 11, Image 11, col. 1-2.
- "An Idyll of April 1---What Fools These Mortals Be!," *The Morning Times* (Washington, DC), March 29, 1896, Part 3, Page 17, Image 17, col. 1-7.
- "April Called Out All Its Army of Fools," *The San Francisco Call* (San Francisco, CA), April 2, 1899, Page 11, Image 11, col. 3-4.
- "Concerning the Origin of the Name and Custom of All Fools' Day," *The San Francisco Call* (San Francisco, CA), April 1, 1900, Page 4, Image 4, col. 2-5.
- "Lost, In Antiquity of Ages, April Fool Kept by All People," *Akron Daily Democrat* (Akron, OH), April 1, 1902, Page 3, Image 3, col. 2.
- "The Day of All Fools-Were You One of Them?," *The Tacoma Times* (Tacoma, WA), April 1, 1909, Page 1, Image 1, col. 3-5.

APRIL FOOLS OF TODAY AND YESTERDAY

"Sometimes the Too-knowing Person Proves the Greatest April Fool of All."

"A Regulation Jester Gives a Characteristic Performance."

"The King and Queen Stood at the Foot and Paid Him Court."

FROM mythological times, when merry Iambe was sent with Ceres on a vain hunt for Prosperpine, clear down through the days of the witty Stuart-fools to the routine tricks of today, April Fool's day has been given over to queer antics and the perpetration of jokes at the expense of another. In every language, April first is named for the equivalent of "fool."

At one period it was strictly pagan; at another somewhat mixed up with certain observances of the Christian church; and today it is celebrated chiefly by juveniles and rustics. At its inception it was rather the higher stratum of society that annually celebrated it. Believing that since every god and saint had a "day" so should every fool—or jester—royal courts designated that day coming on April first in the modern Calendar as All Fools' Day and during those twenty-four hours reversed all usual procedure.

In France the Court Jester was an important personage. He was the means of enlivening so many otherwise weary hours that monarchs owed him a debt of gratitude. On his day he and his kind were elevated to the throne, and the King and Queen stood at the foot and paid him court. His fool's "bauble" was regarded as the rank of kingly office and any mandate he issued—short of power over life and death—was obeyed. And, it is said, sometimes a foolish ruler received a much needed lesson from the orders of his jester.

Modern France rather inclines to circuses and gay outdoor performances on April first. Through the Provinces little two-wheeled carts journey to hamlets where any entertainment is a novelty. From the tailboard a regulation jester, in tight-fitting fleshings, peaked cap with bells and his "bauble" in his hand, gives a characteristic performance. A favorite diversion is to pause suddenly amid a serious talk and give a smart blow with his stick to some one in the audience; or to rap out a witticism at the expense of a listener; or best of all, to offer free sweetmeats and then go into paroxysms of mirth at the deluded ones who bite into a concoction of chocolate and raw cotton.

In England the populace always has a Morris dance on April Fools' Day in which everybody hilariously participates. A feature of it is the "ring-around-a-Rosy," with the typical fool arrayed in tights, or tight trousers, fool's cap and bearing an inflated bladder on a stick, holding hands with a "Betsy" of the dairy maid type.

In the Middle Ages in England it was considered great sport to send persons on a "wild-goose chase" after "a second edition of Cock Robin" or a "h'a p'orth of crocodile quills," or the "History of Eve's Mother." In 1872 a writer there tells how it was the custom for boys to cry out "Ah, you April Fools!" and how, seventy years before that, it was customary to say "Sir, your shoe is unbuckled." A choice witticism was perpetrated by remarking "Excuse me, but there's something on your face." "What?" inquires the victim. "Your nose, Ha! Ha!"

In the North of England April Fools are still called "gowks, or gouks"—that being the name for cuckoo, which commonly means "fool." This probably is similar to the German, geck—signifying the same stupidity—and explains why when a maiden of the Fatherland first hears the voice of a cuckoo on April Fool night she kisses her hand in the direction of the bird and asks when she will marry. As many times as the cuckoo or geck replies immediately following her question is supposed to signify the number of months to elapse before she is wed.

In Scotland the people have an April Fool custom of "hunting the gowk." This consists of sending people on a long despairing chase after a letter which, when finally located, reads "go hunt the gowk another mile." The victim is told that a certain person has a note for him. He goes in search of it, only to be informed the missive has been handed to someone living farther on to be given to him.

The French call the person imposed upon on April Fool's Day a "poisson d' Avril," or mackerel, which is a very stupid fish and one easily caught. The Spanish call them "Innocents." But, whatever the title, they are treated with about equal heartlessness in every land—even the usually polite Oriental indulging, from long before the Birth of Christ, in this annual form of diversion.

And, strangely, in no matter what era, country, or tongue the day has been recognized it has always come on what exactly corresponds with our first of April.

The Chinese account for the origin of All Fools' Day by a fable handed down from the mazes of antiquity. According to this, a certain great prince had the misfortune to offend an enchanter, but also obtained the protection of a fairy. When his son grew up and succeeded to the throne the enchanter and fairy fought for the possession of the prince.

The fairy turned her enemy first into a rock and then into a stream of water. This torrent swept over the prince and carried him away a distance of two miles where a sunken lake was created. It was named "the pool of Iscamma," in honor of the prince and a yearly festival in his memory was instituted. Gradually, on that day, it became the custom to send persons "to find Iscamma," or to search in vain. This event, supposed to have been dated April Fools' Day, is ascribed to the Isle of Chiekock, on the seventh of the moon of Niada—which in the European calendar makes April first.

Yet, perhaps, from amid the numerous origins put forth by various races the most plausible—because it seems to find confirmation by every Occidental writer on the subject—is that it was celebrated first as the final day of the octave forming the Roman New Year. With all pagans every important festival lasted for eight days, the first and last being the most significant. Now, the year with the Romans was ushered in on what is now March 25th and the feasting ended on April first. Also, there was much in the nature of the celebration to link it with modern All Fools' Day.

A Typical English "Fool" and His "Betsy."

The entire last day was given over to "fool-making" of a nature very similar to that with which the American small boy fools his contemporaries. It was called "Kalendarum," and came in their January calendar.

The public rejoicing of the Gentiles at this time was adopted by the Christian church only, rather toned down concerning certain unseemly and immoral dances in the skins of wild beasts. By degrees fasts and Litanies were put in place of the earlier profane festivities.

But the old Adam was never quite expelled from them. "It was," an old writer explains, "this moral leaven which caused the name of Festa Hypodiaconorum to be bestowed on the day, not because only sub-deacons took part in the mock solemnities, but because higher officials of the Church were ashamed to acknowledge them on account of their immoral enormities.

In ancient Rome, Plutarch tells that the Quirinalia was called the "Feast of Fools"—Festa Stultorum—in honor of Quirinus and derived its second appellation from the fact that the stupid part of his people, (who were ignorant of their own tribe, or curia) had, from absence or neglect, missed their own tribe's celebration of the Fernacalia—a festival instituted in honor of the goddess of ovens in order that the corn might be sufficiently baked. They were allowed to hold their belated feast separately on April first, or All Fools' Day.

Back in Biblical times there appears a suggestion of the April Fool quest in the errand on which Annas was sent from Calphas to Pilate, from Pilate to Herod and back again to Pilate. This was a fool's errand for which no cause can be found other than to trick him and, strangely, students of sacred lore claim it befell just about April first.

By tracing the calendar and comparing with modern dates it is also asserted that Noah "April-fooled" the dove, sending it forth before the waters had receded, on the first day of the month among the Hebrews that corresponds with the initial day of our fourth month.

A German writer—in whose country this venerable old custom is firmly established—gives one of the most sensible of theories when he claims that April itself is the fool month, with her deceitful and varying weather. "One goes forth in the sunshine for a walk," he says, "only to be April-fooled and come home in a deluge of rain. April's quick recurring sun-smiles being her woman's laughter at people's confiding folly."

Sweden is to American minds so peopled with grave, serious folk that indulgence in the droll horse-play of the first of April seems hardly fitting. Yet that land has to its April Fool credit one of the most ingenuously tormenting ceremonies of the day. It is thought extremely funny to stand at an upper, open window with a bucket of water and a pail of ashes in readiness. As some especially well-dressed "fool" approaches he is given enough of the water to cause him, instinctively, to look up; immediately a handful of ashes is received in his eyes and all over his fine raiment.

Strangest of all, in tracing the course of the April Fool joke and the joker down through the world, is to learn that the studiously polite and dignified Hindoo has numbered such a celebration among those of his country from time immemorial. Every year a great feast is held in all India which corresponds exactly with the features of our April first and falls on the same date.

This is called the "Feast of the Hull" and during its observance mirth and jokes are rampant. There are the same useless errands, the fake letter and deceiving edibles and many hoaxes possessing a uniqueness of conception beyond the Occidental mind to invent. As a rule the lower classes are most pleased by these ceremonies, though every grade of society observes the feast and Surajah Dowlat, whose Indian name has been Anglicized into Sir Roget Dowlass, loved to make "Hull Fools" of his friends.

About the most gigantic April Fool joke on record was perpetrated on citizens of London in the year of 1860. During the latter part of March a vast number of people received, in their morning mail, cards bearing what appeared to be an official stamp but was really wax impressed with a sixpence turned upside down. It read: "Tower of London—Admit bearer to view the annual Ceremony of Washing the White Lions, on Sunday, April 1st, 1860. Admitted only at the White Gate. It is particularly requested that no gratuity be given any of the Wardens or their Assistants."

The stolid English got up before daybreak to be in time for the remarkable performance. They hadn't the slightest idea what it meant, but that only whetted their curiosity the more. All day long, cabs and carriages were rattling over the stones around Tower Hill searching for the White Gate. Of course there wasn't any such gate and gradually the victims realized that they had been offered up on the altar of April Fools' Day.

So much for the fools of yesterday. Nobody could convince the average small boy that his strategic feats of April first ever were or will be surpassed. He ties his trick purse across the pavement and wriggles with glee when a pompous grown-up stoops for it. He runs off with a sagging gate from some dilapidated yard and hangs it on the imposing iron fence of a splendid mansion. He wets flour and throws it on pedestrians, rings door bells and grows hoarse from frequent repetitions of "Say! Mister, you dropped your handkerchief," or "You lost your pocketbook."

But things really have a way of getting lost on April first, as well as on any other day of the calendar. And sometimes the too-knowing person proves the greatest April Fool of all. Occasionally a small boy shouts to a man that the latter has dropped his purse; the man nods comprehendingly but goes on—leaving his wallet to be picked up later by one who proves a theory of Confucius which reads "From a fool the wise can often learn wisdom."

AMONG the many symbols which have been employed to mark

of the egg into hot sealing wax placed

Deposited August 19. 1835
at the Clerks Off. South Dist
of New York

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LUNAR ANIMALS
AND OTHER
OBJECTS,

Discovered by Sir John Herschel in his Observatory at the Cape of Good Hope and copied from sketches in the Edinburgh Journal of Science.

For Description, See Pamphlet Published at the Sun Office

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Primary Sources and April Fool's Day: The Great Moon Hoax of 1825

March 31, 2015 by Cheryl Lederle

This post is by Rebecca Newland, the 2013-2015 Library of Congress Teacher in Residence.

April's Fool's Day pranks are usually fairly short term: An entire class simultaneously falls asleep or a teacher assigns a forty-page essay due the next day, and everyone laughs once the trick is revealed. Hoaxes, on the other hand, have a different intent, as they are engineered to deceive over the long term, and often on a large scale. Invite your students to consider the difference as they analyze primary sources connected to the Great Moon Hoax of 1835.

In August of 1835, the New York newspaper *The Sun* published a six-part series about life found on the moon, written by Dr. Andrew Grant, a protégé of Sir John Herschel, a respected astronomer. The series described goat-like creatures with horns and beards frolicking about on green turf. Another installment focused on water birds and animals, including a spherical amphibious creature that rolled along the moon beach. Most thrilling of all was the description of beings that walked upright with dignity and "averaged four feet in height, were covered, except on the face, with short and glossy copper hair, and have wings composed of a thin membrane, without hair, lying snugly upon their backs, from the top of the shoulders to the calves of the legs." When it was discovered that Grant was a fictitious persona created by journalist Richard Adams Locke, the hoax fell apart, but for a time, readers were completely taken in by the reports.

Lunar animals and other objects Discovered by Sir John Herschel in his observatory at the Cape of Good Hope and copied from sketches in the Edinburgh Journal of Science. 1835

Pique student interest in the Moon Hoax with this drawing that was published with the series. Use the Library of Congress primary source analysis tool in conjunction with prompting questions selected from the Analyzing Prints and Photographs Teacher's Guide to encourage student observation, reflection, and questions.

Invite a deeper analysis by asking:

- What similarities are there between the beings depicted and beings on Earth?
- What scientific errors does the drawing include?

In 1918, *The Sun* published a series of articles on the history of the newspaper. The Moon Hoax situation was a significant part of their story. Offer students this newspaper article reporting details about the original news items, Richard Locke, and the success of the hoax.

THE FAMOUS MOON HOAX ARTICLE THAT FOOLED THE WHOLE WORLD

The Famous Moon Hoax Article that Fooled the Whole World. 1918

Ask:

- What questions did you have that were answered by the news article?
- What questions do you still have?
- Why might *The Sun's* readers have been fooled?
- What scientific knowledge would a reader have needed to understand the claims made in the stories?
- What do we know about the moon today that newspaper readers in 1825 did not? How do we know?

Belief, Legend, and the Great Moon Hoax

August 26, 2014 by Stephanie Hall

During the week of August 25, 1835, the world was treated to a fantastic story of scientific discoveries by the famous British astronomer, Sir John Herschel. He had realized the speculations of his father, astronomer Sir William Herschel, as he discovered life on the moon.[1] Or so the readers of *The New York Sun* were told, in a series of articles now known as the Great Moon Hoax.

"Lunar animals and other objects Discovered by Sir John Herschel in his observatory at the Cape of Good Hope and copied from sketches in the Edinburgh Journal of Science." An illustration for *The New York Sun,* credited to Benjamin Day, 1835. Follow the link to the Prints and Photographs Catalog for more information.

When we think of stories about life on other worlds and visits to or from those worlds presented as truth rather than fiction, we usually think of legends, news reports, or hoaxes of the mid-twentieth century to the present day. Similarly, the problem of sorting out fact from fiction in news items, especially those passed along through internet news sites and social media, seems quite modern. But speculation about life on the moon or planets in the solar system is older than the written word. News hoaxes also have a long history. Publisher Benjamin Franklin was a famous source of both legitimate news and hoaxes.[2]

Folklorists have an interest in news hoaxes, alongside interest in legends of extraordinary events and the supernatural. News hoaxes succeed when they are written in the news style of the day and draw from contemporary factual news, while legends are stories with origins in oral traditions. But the two often parallel each other and may even include versions of the same stories. Russell Frank discussed modern "newslore" in his book talk at the Library of Congress, "Newslore: Contemporary Folklore on the Internet."

Leading up to the Great Moon Hoax was another story published in June, 1835. Edgar Allen Poe wrote a story in the *Southern Literary Messenger*, told as if true: "Hans Phaall, a Tale." It described the return of an explorer to his native Holland with stories of life and adventures on the moon. In his day, a satire was counted as successful if a good portion of its readers thought it to be true. But in this case Poe's sense of humor betrayed him and his article was quickly recognized as fiction by many of his readers. The *Southern Literary Messenger* was a periodical of fact and fiction that was only ten months old when Poe wrote this story, so it did not have a wide circulation at that time.

But someone, likely a writer on the staff of *The New York Sun*, either read Poe's story or was thinking along the same lines. There was excitement about the return of Comet Halley expected in the fall and a predicted transit of Mercury, as well as astronomer John Herschel's expedition to catalog the stars of the southern hemisphere. In the world of philosophy, the Scottish minister, amateur astronomer, and popular author, Rev. Thomas Dick, was making imaginative claims about intelligent life on other worlds. For example, he calculated the population of the solar system at over twenty-one trillion. This was a time of exciting events, theories, and claims. Stories playing on curiosity about astronomy could sell newspapers.

COLLECTION

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World, Sun, Solar System: Models of Our Place in the Cosmos

Exploring Eclipses Through Primary Sources: Earth, Moon & Sun

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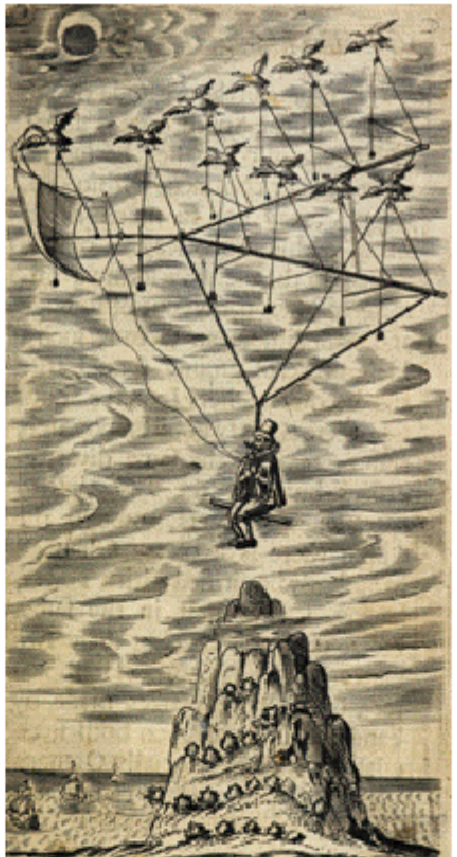
Peoples & Creatures of the Moon

Humans have long imagined the kinds of creatures or peoples that might live on Earth's moon. This section briefly describes ideas about lunar life in the 17th, 19th the 20th centuries through a series of items from the Library of Congress' collections. By examining ideas about life on the moon, insights emerge about the interplay between imagination and rigorous thought in our developing understanding of the universe.



The Peoples of the Moon in 1638

Publication of Galileo's telescopic observations of the moon had an important effect on ideas about life on other worlds. The idea that the moon was a physical place, a world like the Earth, suggested that the moon could be inhabited by beings much like us. In this vein, in *The Discovery of a World in the Moone (1638)*, English bishop John Wilkins, suggested it"tis probable there may be inhabitants in this other World." In 1638 another Englishman offered a fictional account of a visit to just such an inhabited moon.

Francis Godwin's *The Man in the Moone*, published in 1638, follows the exploits of Domingo Gonsales, a Spanish noblemen who after a series of adventures on Earth makes a voyage to the moon. After exploits in the East Indies, Gonsales finds himself on the island St. Helena where he discovers a species of swan like birds. Realizing

Is Seeing Always Believing

- San Francisco Earthquake and Fire

- San Francisco Disaster

Primary Sources: Is Seeing Always Believing?

April 4, 2013 by Danna Bell

This post includes contributions from the Library's Cheryl Lederle and Stephen Wesson.

Is a primary source always the genuine article?

Primary sources are original documents and objects which were created at the time under study. We know that primary sources can show a certain point of view or a certain perception about an event. But students may not think about the reasons why a particular primary source was created, or what the audience at the time expected of it. For some primary sources, it's worth asking whether their creators ever intended them to be taken as the literal truth.

Show your students these two films on the San Francisco earthquake: San Francisco Earthquake and Fire April 18, 1906 and San Francisco Disaster May 19, 1906.

San Francisco Earthquake and Fire

San Francisco Disaster

Encourage them to use the Primary Source Analysis Tool to keep track of their observations, reflections, and questions. You may select questions from the Teacher's Guide: Analyzing Motion Pictures to focus and deepen their analysis.

What differences and similarities do they see with the films? Ask them which film they think provides a more accurate depiction of what was happening after the San Francisco earthquake. What helped them to decide which film is more accurate?

FILM, VIDEO

The execution of Mary, Queen of Scots

Execution

About this Item

Title
The execution of Mary, Queen of Scots

Other Title
Execution

Summary
From Maguire & Baucus catalogue: Representing the beheading of Mary, Queen of Scots. A realistic reproduction of an historic scene.

Contributor Names
Clark, Alfred, -1950, production.

Thomae, Robert, cast.

Heise, William, camera.

Thomas A. Edison, Inc.

Hendricks (Gordon) Collection (Library of Congress)

Created / Published
United States : Edison Manufacturing Co., [1895]

Subject Headings
- Mary,--Queen of Scots,--1542-1587--Death and burial--Drama
- Executions and executioners--Drama
- Beheading--Drama
- Historical reenactments

Genre
Trick films

Notes
- Copyright: no reg.

Part of

Inventing Entertainment: The Early Motion Pictures and Sound Recordings of the Edison Companies (432)

Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division (2,030)

Library of Congress Online Catalog (1,101,779)

Format
Film, Video

Contributors
Clark, Alfred
Heise, William
Hendricks (Gordon) Collection (Library of Congress)
Thomae, Robert
Thomas A. Edison, Inc

Dates
1895

Location

Language
English

Subjects

A. LINCOLN,

Attorney and Counselor at Law

SPRINGFIELD, - - ILLINOIS.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

My old customers, and others, are no doubt aware of the terrible time I have had in CROSSING THE STREAM, and will be glad to know that I will be back, on the same side from which I started, on or before the FOURTH OF MARCH NEXT, when I will be ready to SWAP HORSES, DISPENSE LAW, MAKE JOKES, SPLIT RAILS, and perform other matters in a SMALL way.

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For more specific questions you may also use one of the forms below. Some areas offer online chat during limited hours, indicated by the CHAT icon.

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Formats

- Audio Recordings
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- Film, TV, Video
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- Manuscripts
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- Newspapers, Periodicals CHAT
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- Rare Books, Special Collections

Languages and Regions

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- European
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