



Notable Quotable

“A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives.”

~ Jackie Robinson (made his major league debut on April 15, 1947)

April Horoscopes and Birthdays

If you were born between April 1–19, you are Aries, the Ram. These independent adventurers like to strike out on their own and are natural leaders. Their enthusiasm and confidence give them big, outgoing personalities. Those born between April 20–30 are Bulls of Taurus. Bulls show a steady persistence in endeavors both professional and personal, and after working hard, they like to reward themselves for a job well done.

Charolette Bain
Gloria Post

April 26th
April 27th



(cont. from pg. 1) April Fool's Day

Spread Throughout Britain:

- During the **18th century**, April Fools' Day spread throughout Britain. In Scotland, it became a two-day event:
 - **Hunting the Gowk:** People were sent on phony errands (gowk means cuckoo bird, symbolizing a fool).

- **Tailie Day:** [Pranks were played on people's derrieres, including pinning fake tails or "kick me" signs on them](#)

Modern-Day Hoaxes:

- In recent times, elaborate April Fools' Day hoaxes have been created. Newspapers, radio stations, TV channels, and websites participate in reporting outrageous fictional claims that fool their audiences. [For instance, in 1957, the BBC reported that Swiss farmers were experiencing a record spaghetti crop and even showed footage of people harvesting noodles from trees](#)



Newsletter Title

April 2024

Name of your community | Address |
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The history and origin of April Fool's Day

The origins of **April Fools' Day** are shrouded in mystery, but several theories provide insight into its history. Let's explore them:

1. Switch to the Gregorian Calendar:

- Some historians speculate that April Fools' Day dates back to **1582** when France transitioned from the Julian calendar to the Gregorian calendar. The Council of Trent had called for this change. In the Julian Calendar (and the Hindu calendar), the new year began around **April 1** with the spring equinox. However, those who

the new year began around **April 1** with the spring equinox. However, those who were slow to receive the news or failed to recognize the shift to January 1 as the new year became the butt of jokes and hoaxes. [They were playfully referred to as "April fools." Pranks included placing paper fish on their backs and calling them "poisson d'avril" \(April fish\), symbolizing both a young, easily caught fish and a gullible person](#)

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4 tips for Allergy season

- 1 Check Pollen counts
- 2 Keep windows closed & use A/C when possible.
- 3 Bring your workout indoors.
- 4 Shower regularly to remove pollen off skin & hair.



Honesty and Deception

You may find that April 4 goes against your moral code, for it's Tell a Lie Day. Many ethical people live by the credo "Always tell the truth." But do we? Researchers have discovered that most people tell occasional lies for several reasons. Sometimes we lie to gain other people's respect or to cover up for making mistakes. The good news is that most people lie to spare someone else's feelings

from being hurt. Compassion may sometimes override honesty.

Luckily, April 30 is Honesty Day. Honesty can certainly hurt sometimes, but it also takes courage and maturity to be honest in difficult situations. Furthermore, staying honest attracts other honest people to you. When you are surrounded by the truth, you are free to be yourself. That's worth celebrating!

For the Love of Birds



The primary medium Audubon used for his paintings was watercolors.

John James Audubon, namesake of the bird conservation organization the Audubon Society and French American painter of birds, was born on April 26, 1785, a date now celebrated as Audubon Day.

As a child, Audubon spent hours roaming the countryside, collecting birds' nests and eggs, and drawing them once he returned home. When the Napoleonic Wars broke out in France in 1803, Audubon's father obtained a fake passport and sent his son to America. It was at his family's farm in Pennsylvania that Audubon devoted himself full-time to the outdoors: hunting, fishing, and drawing birds.

Audubon was obsessed with birds. He studied their habits. He learned the art of taxidermy and worked in natural museums. But his greatest contribution to ornithology was his brilliant book *Birds of America*. His style was new and different: a highly detailed drawing of each bird, more accurate than ever before. His drawings were life-sized, with pages over three feet tall and two feet wide. After 14 years of traveling the entire country, Audubon drew over 700 species of birds. *Birds of America* is often considered the greatest picture book ever made, and original copies have sold for over \$10 million. How's that for a nest egg?

Let the Good Times Roll



The first National Marbles Tournament was held in 1922.

All April long, opponents will be throwing their knuckles down. This isn't anything sinister. "Knuckles down" is the position you assume before shooting in a classic game of marbles. So this April, Knuckles Down Month, you too can play for keeps.

The classic game of marbles is called ringer. Two parallel lines, lag lines, are drawn 10 feet away from each other. A 10-foot circle is drawn between the lag lines. In the middle of the circle is a cross made of 13 target marbles, or mibs. To determine who plays first, each player lags from one lag line to the other; that is, they toss their shooter marble to the opposite line.

The player whose shooter lands closest to the lag line goes first.

Play starts by knuckling down along the edge of the ring and using your thumb to cast your shooter at the mibs inside. The object is to knock a mib outside the circle while keeping your shooter inside. You next knuckle down inside the ring where your shooter landed. If you fail to knock out a mib, then it is your opponent's turn. The first player to knock out a majority of marbles wins, and it's up to you to determine whether to play for fair (return all marbles to their original owners) or play for keeps (the winner keeps all the marbles).



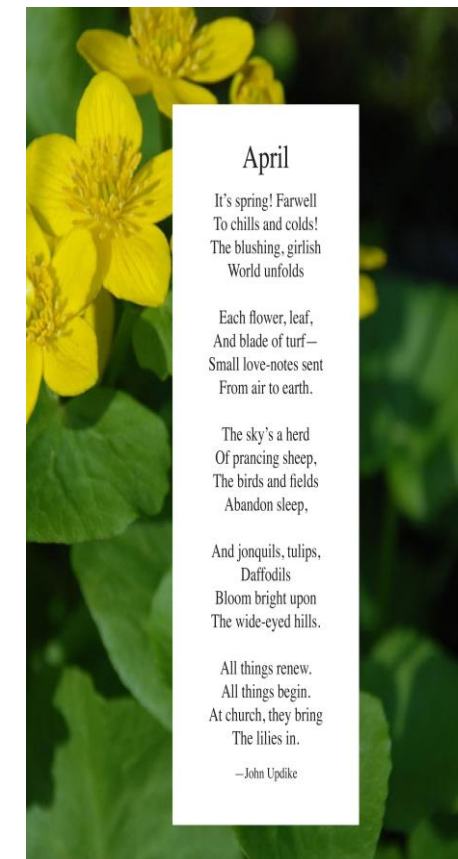
Robinson was only 53 when he died.

Major League Debut

On April 15, 1947, Jackie Robinson played his first major league baseball game with the Brooklyn Dodgers against the Boston Braves in front of a crowd of 25,000 spectators at Ebbets Field in Brooklyn. This marked the first moment that an African American athlete played a sport in any of the major leagues.

Robinson did not get a hit that day, but he was awarded the first ever Rookie of the Year title

that year. In 1949, he was named the National League's Most Valuable Player. The next year, he became the Dodgers' highest paid player with a salary of \$35,000. In 1955, Robinson led the Dodgers to a World Series victory over the New York Yankees. A perennial All-Star and Hall of Famer, Robinson's number 42 was retired by all of baseball on April 15, 1997.



April

It's spring! Farwell
To chills and colds!
The blushing, girlish
World unfolds

Each flower, leaf,
And blade of turf—
Small love-notes sent
From air to earth.

The sky's a herd
Of prancing sheep,
The birds and fields
Abandon sleep,

And jonquils, tulips,
Daffodils
Bloom bright upon
The wide-eyed hills.

All things renew.
All things begin.
At church, they bring
The lilies in.

—John Updike



Welcome
Spring

Welcome to
Spring and all the
newness this
season brings. Its
rain, daffodils,
sunshine, and
thunder. Its
warmth, color, and
a breath of fresh
air. Its little buds
and birds chirping.
All life crawls out
of hibernation and
our hearts open.