

<p><b>Bulls become angry when they see the color red.</b></p> <p><b>Wrong</b></p> <p>The popular myths that bulls become angry when they see red, or are unusually violent animals, comes from the tradition of bullfighting, where a matador waves around a red cape, or a muleta, and the bull charges the cape with fervor. However, it's not the color of the cape that angers the bull but it's the movement of the cape. We also know that bulls are actually red-green colorblind and would have a hard time distinguishing red from green, orange, and brown.</p>	<p><b>Identical twins don't have the same fingerprints.</b></p> <p><b>Right</b></p> <p>You can't blame your crimes on your twin, after all. This is because environmental factors during development in the womb (umbilical cord length, position in the womb, and the rate of finger growth) impact your fingerprint.</p>
<p><b>A duck's quack does not echo.</b></p> <p><b>Wrong</b></p> <p>A duck's quack not echoing is a myth that stems from the fact that it is simply very difficult to hear the echo. Using a reverberation chamber is all you need to prove that a duck's quack does indeed echo. But why is it so hard to hear a duck's quack echo without this chamber? Many reasons can contribute to creating an echo in the wild. A duck needs to have a large surface far enough away to reflect off of and the strength behind its quack to reach said surface and make it back to your ears at a volume that is loud enough.</p>	<p><b>The north star is the brightest star in the night sky.</b></p> <p><b>Wrong</b></p> <p>The north star, or Polaris, is the star that is positioned right above the celestial pole. The celestial pole is the axis that the celestial sky rotates around, the point in the night sky that doesn't move as the earth rotates, therefore showing true north. Polaris is not the brightest in the night sky - not even close! Polaris is about 50th in terms of brightness. The brightest is the dog star, Sirius.</p>
<p><b>A cloud weighs around a million tonnes.</b></p> <p><b>Right</b></p> <p>A cloud typically has a volume of around 1km<sup>3</sup> and a density of around 1.003kg per m<sup>3</sup> – that's a density that's around 0.4 per cent lower than the air surrounding it (this is how they are able to float).</p>	<p><b>If your dad is bald, you'll be bald too.</b></p> <p><b>Wrong</b></p> <p>Male pattern baldness is a trait on the X chromosome, meaning it skips a generation and comes from your mother's side. So, yes, if your dad is bald, there is a chance you might become bald. However, it is only a possibility, and there are other causes of baldness.</p>
<p><b>Giraffes are 30 times more likely to get hit by lightning than people.</b></p> <p><b>Right</b></p> <p>True, there are only five well-documented fatal lightning strikes on giraffes between 1996 and 2010. But due to the population of the species being just 140,000 during this time, it makes for about 0.003 lightning deaths per thousand giraffes each year. This is 30 times the equivalent fatality rate for humans.</p>	<p><b>Earth's rotation is changing speed.</b></p> <p><b>Right</b></p> <p>It's actually slowing. This means that, on average, the length of a day increases by around 1.8 seconds per century. 600 million years ago a day lasted just 21 hours.</p>
<p><b>Lightning Never Strikes the Same Place Twice</b></p> <p><b>Wrong</b></p> <p>If you have watched a thunderstorm any length of time, you know this is not true. Lightning can strike one place multiple times. The Empire State Building gets struck around 25 times each year. Actually, any tall object is at increased risk of a lightning strike. Some people have been struck by lightning more than once.</p>	<p><b>Your brain is constantly eating itself.</b></p> <p><b>Right</b></p> <p>This process is called phagocytosis, where cells envelop and consume smaller cells or molecules to remove them from the system. Don't worry! Phagocytosis isn't harmful, but actually helps preserve your grey matter.</p>

<p><b>Cracking your knuckles frequently increases your chance of developing arthritis in your hands.</b></p> <p><b>Wrong</b></p> <p>While cracking your knuckles may be annoying for those around you, it has no correlation to arthritis in those joints. This makes sense though - knuckle cracking is a bubble being formed and popped by the liquid that surrounds your knuckle joints. It causes no trauma to these areas that would accelerate the onset of inflammation to these joints, which is what arthritis is.</p>	<p><b>The largest piece of fossilised dinosaur poo discovered is over 30cm long and over two litres in volume.</b></p> <p><b>Right</b></p> <p>Believed to be a Tyrannosaurus Rex turd, the fossilised dung (also named a 'coprolite') is helping scientists better understand what the dinosaur ate.</p>
<p><b>Toilets flush in opposite directions depending on which side of the equator you find yourself on.</b></p> <p><b>Wrong</b></p> <p>The Coriolis Effect is a pattern of deflection that things that are not firmly connected to the earth but travel long distances across the planet. Since the earth rotates faster at the equator than at the polar poles, objects will appear to rotate to the right in the northern hemisphere and to the left in the southern hemisphere. However, the Coriolis Effect only influences things moving great distances of long periods of time on earth, not a 5 second toilet flush.</p>	<p><b>The Great Wall of China is the only man-made thing visible from space.</b></p> <p><b>Wrong</b></p> <p>The Great Wall of China is certainly large, at 13,171 miles long ! However, it is unable to be seen from space with just the unaided eye. From low earth orbit, astronauts have said they can see cities, major roadways, dams, and even airports. So why can't they see the Great Wall? It's all about color. The Great Wall of China is nearly the same color as the area surrounding it, so it's difficult to distinguish the wall from its surroundings.</p>
<p><b>All dinosaurs went extinct by an asteroid hitting earth.</b></p> <p><b>Wrong</b></p> <p>The asteroid, or the K-T extinction event, that happened 65 million years ago wiped out about 80 percent of all plant and animal life on the planet. The effects of the asteroid and the winter fallout that occurred afterward killed all tetrapods (four-legged animals) that weighed over 50 pounds. However, some small species of dinosaurs survived and evolved into modern-day birds. This event did lead to many mammals evolving into larger and more complex species as, during the time of large meat-eating lizards, mammals tended to become meals.</p>	<p><b>Ostriches stick their heads into the ground when threatened.</b></p> <p><b>Wrong</b></p> <p>Their first instinct is to run, and they are fast! Ostriches can outrun most predators. If they can't run, they aren't afraid to fight. An ostrich can kick with their clawed feet so hard they can easily take out a full-grown lion. However, this myth did have an origin in ostrich behavior. Ostriches will lay down flat to play dead if they feel they can't win the fight, this combined with their lightly colored head and neck makes it look as if the ostrich has buried its head.</p>
<p><b>Animals can experience time differently from humans.</b></p> <p><b>Right</b></p> <p>To smaller animals, the world around them moves more slowly compared to humans. Salamanders and lizards, for example, experience time more slowly than cats and dogs. This is because the perception of time depends on how quickly the brain can process incoming information.</p>	<p><b>Chainsaws were first invented for childbirth.</b></p> <p><b>Right</b></p> <p>It was developed in Scotland in the late 18th Century to help aid and speed up the process of symphysiotomy (widening the pubic cartilage) and removal of disease-laden bone during childbirth. It wasn't until the start of the 20th Century that we started using chainsaws for woodchopping.</p>
<p><b>Most maps of the world are wrong.</b></p> <p><b>Right</b></p> <p>On most maps, the Mercator projection – first developed in 1569 – is still used. This method is wildly inaccurate and makes Alaska appear as large as Brazil and Greenland 14 times larger than it actually is. For a map to be completely accurate, it would need to be life-size and round, not flat.</p>	<p><b>Mice love cheese.</b></p> <p><b>Wrong</b></p> <p>Mice will eat anything that has some sort of nutritional value. However, given a choice, a mouse would pick a sweeter food choice like fruit or candy over cheese. The popular science myths that mice, or other small animals, love cheese originated in medieval times when families didn't have refrigerators. They hung meat from the ceiling and stored grain in silos, but cheese was simply wrapped in a thin layer of wax or cloth, making it much easier for rodents to find and eat the cheese.</p>