



Twisted Tales

10 odd tales about Famous Scientists



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Isaac Newton and the Boy who Bullied him



Isaac Newton was a shy, quiet boy growing up on a farm in England 300 years ago. He was not a very good student and nobody paid much attention to him. Nobody that is, except the school bully. One day the bully punched Isaac in the stomach.

That hurt, and that got Isaac very mad! He pulled himself up straight and fought back. Isaac pushed the bully onto the ground and rubbed his face in the mud. All the other kids hated the bully and came and cheered for Isaac. So Isaac taught the bully a lesson, but he wasn't satisfied with that. Now that he knew he could fight better than the bully, he wanted to prove that he could do anything better than the bully. So he started paying attention to school and studying hard. He was soon the top of his class, proving he was smarter than the bully too.





Isaac Newton and the Boy who Bullied him

Isaac Newton kept on studying and when he grew up he became a math professor at Cambridge University. He discovered lots of important things and is one of the most famous scientists who ever lived.

Source: <https://www.dctech.com/eureka/short-stories/newton.php>

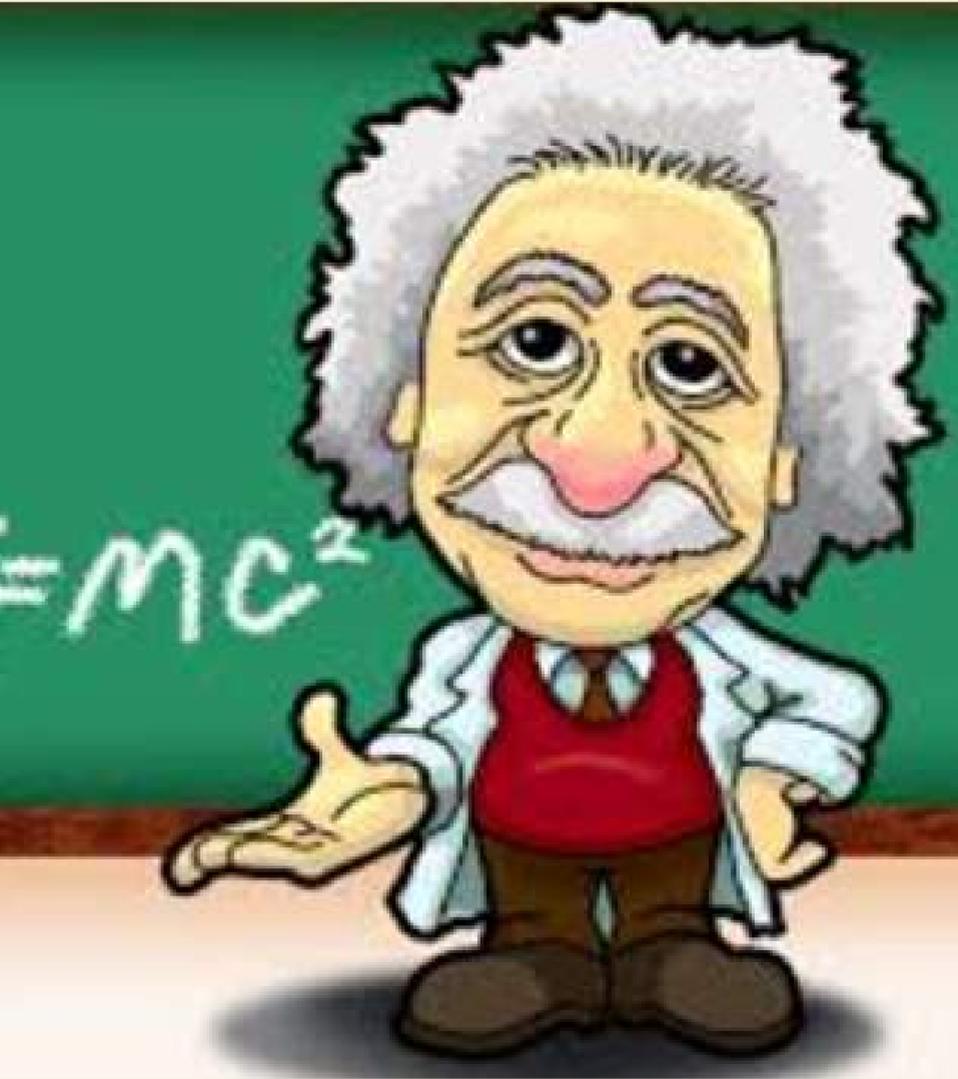


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Einstein and Train Ticket



Einstein was once travelling from Princeton on a train when the conductor came down the aisle, punching the tickets of every passenger. When he came to Einstein, Einstein reached in his vest pocket. He couldn't find his ticket, so he reached in his trouser pockets.

It wasn't there, so he looked in his briefcase but couldn't find it. Then he looked in the seat beside him. He still couldn't find it.

The conductor said, 'Dr. Einstein, I know who you are. We all know who you are. I'm sure you bought a ticket. Don't worry about it.' Einstein nodded appreciatively. The conductor continued down the aisle punching tickets. As he was ready to move to the next car, he turned around and saw the great physicist down on his hands and knees looking under his seat for his ticket.





Einstein and Train Ticket

The conductor rushed back and said, 'Dr. Einstein, Dr. Einstein, don't worry, I know who you are. No problem.

You don't need a ticket. I'm sure you bought one.'

Einstein looked at him and said,

'Young man, I too, know who I am. What I don't know is where I'm going. That's why I am searching my ticket'

Source:

<https://iiteeeestudents.wordpress.com/2011/09/06/funny-interesting-stories-of-albert-einstein/>



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Edison's encounter with Fire



Thomas Edison in earlier years worked in a modest building that resembled a barn. There, with his son, Edison would often remain late into the night, laboring to perfect his inventions.

One evening, in an attempt to improve the retention of battery's charge, an unfortunate combination of chemicals caused his latest experiment to burst into flames. The fire quickly spread through the old structure and exploded into a towering inferno.

Edison's son quickly evacuated the barn. He desperately called for his father, fearing Edison might still be in the barn trying to save his precious work.



Edison's encounter with Fire

He turned to a corner and to his great relief there stood his father. Edison's hands were buried deep in the smock, his white hair blackened with ash. Edison was watching intently as flames devoured the structure. Without taking his eyes off the flames, Edison said, with a sense of urgency, "son, go get your mother!"

Why, dad?

With a twinkle in his eyes his father replied, "because your mother comes from a small town and she's never seen a fire like this before!"

Source: <http://www.symbianize.com/showthread.php?t=131816>

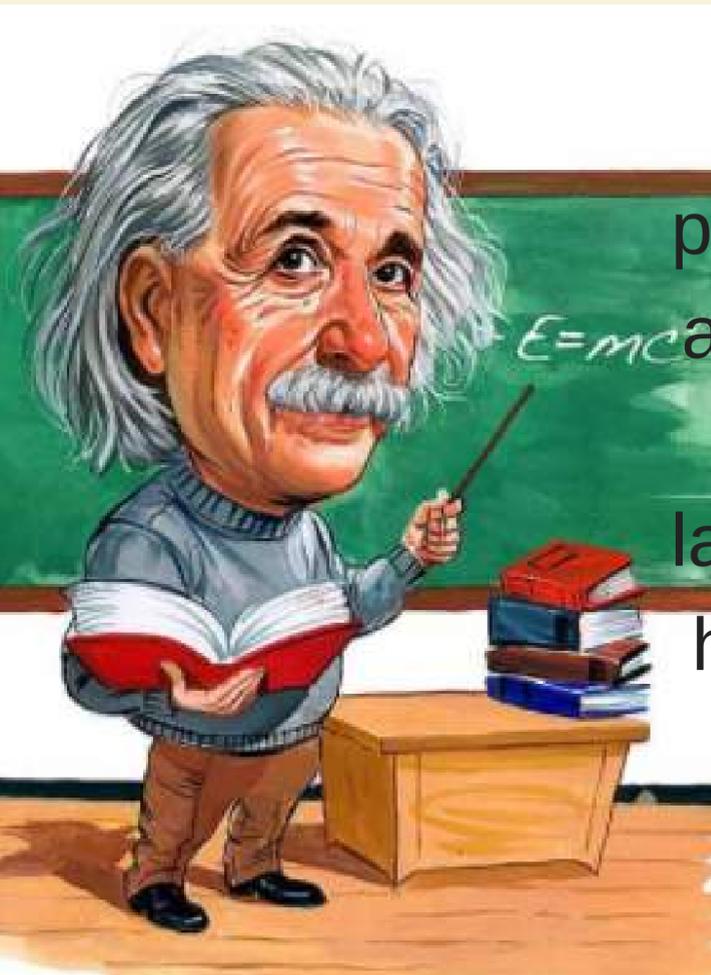


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Einstein and His Driver



Einstein was invited to give the presentation on his theory of relativity, and wherever he went, his driver also accompanied him and he sat in the last row while Einstein was presenting his theory after few presentations his driver told Einstein that “Theory Of Relativity” is so simple,

even I can give a presentation on it, Einstein was not annoyed by that instead he was happy that his theory is understood even by a layman who has no knowledge about science.

For the next presentation Einstein asked his driver to present the theory, in those days media was not a booming industry and hence the people at the place where Einstein was about to give the presentation didnt know how he looked like, so Einstein’s driver was professionally and Einstein became the driver, finally his driver started the presentation and every one believed that he was real Einstein, he presented the theory very well and also answered every questions that were hurled at him as all those questions were





Einstein and His Driver

same as the ones which were asked to Einstein at his previous presentations, but one person asked a very basic question which was not asked in any of the previous presentations given by Einstein, driver was so perplexed that he didn't know what to do, then he came up with such a gem of an answer that displayed his very good presence of mind, any guesses what he might have told??

Here is his reply to the person who asked the question **“You are asking such a silly question that even my driver can answer, he is sitting in the last row you can clarify it with him”** and he finished the **presentation...!!!**

Source:

<https://ravindrakumar5.wordpress.com/2012/09/07/real-life-incidents-of-famous-scientists/comment-page-1/>



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Galileo and Church lamps



One evening when Galileo was only eighteen years old he was in the cathedral at Pisa at about the time the lamps were lighted. The lamps—which burned only oil in those days—were hung by long rods from the ceiling.

When the lamplighter knocked against them, or the wind blew through the cathedral, they would swing back and forth like pendulums. Galileo noticed this. Then he began to study them more closely.

He saw that those which were hung on rods of the same length swung back and forth, or vibrated, in the same length of time. Those that were on the shorter rods vibrated much faster than those on the longer rods. As Galileo watched them swinging to and fro he became much interested. Millions of people had seen lamps moving in this same way, but not one had ever thought of discovering any useful fact connected with the phenomenon.





Galileo and Church lamps



When Galileo went to his room he began to experiment. He took a number of cords of different lengths and hung them from the ceiling. To the free end of each cord he fastened a weight. Then he set all to swinging back and forth, like the lamps in the cathedral. Each cord was a pendulum, just as each rod had been.

He found after long study that when a cord was $39 \frac{1}{10}$ inches long, it vibrated just sixty times in a minute. A cord one fourth as long vibrated just twice as fast, or once every half second. To vibrate three times as fast, or once in every third part of a second, the cord had to be only one ninth of $39 \frac{1}{10}$ inches in length.

By experimenting in various ways Galileo at last discovered how to attach pendulums to timepieces as we have them now.

Thus, to the swinging lamps in the cathedral, and to Galileo's habit of thinking and inquiring, the world owes one of the commonest and most useful of inventions,— the pendulum clock.

Source: <http://www.mainlesson.com/display.php?author=baldwin&book=thirty&story=galileo&PHPSESSID=bb86fbfd9ba926c482abf00a530dbe69>



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William Beaumont's encounter with human intestine



William Beaumont was a surgeon for the United States Army during the 1800s. He came across a man by the name of Alexis St. Martin who had been injured while working for a fur company.

St. Martin was shot in the stomach by a buckshot-loaded shotgun, which **ripped a large hole right through his skin but let his organs remarkably intact.** Despite Beaumont's belief that St. Martin was going to die from his injuries, he survived—albeit with a gaping hole that gave a clear view into his stomach.

Beaumont knew St. Martin could no longer work at the fur company, so he hired him as a handyman. As Beaumont examined St. Martin's odd injury, he did as most scientists would and snatched up the opportunity to see human digestion in action



William Beaumont's encounter with human intestine

Beaumont ran digestion experiments on St. Martin for years by extracting his stomach juices and even lowering pieces of food into the hole tied on a string. Beaumont was able to discover that stomach acids, and not just the movement of the stomach, play a huge role in the process of digestion.

Understandably, St. Martin grew tired of being Beaumont's science project and left for Canada.

Source: <http://listverse.com/2013/07/05/top-10-most-bizarre-little-known-stories-of-science/>



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Russell Frisbie and Frisbee



Over 100 years ago, in Bridgeport, Connecticut, William Russell Frisbie owned the Frisbie Pie Company and delivered his pies locally. All of his pies were baked in the same type of 10" round tin with a raised edge, wide brim, six

six small holes in the bottom, and "Frisbie Pies" on the bottom. Playing catch with the tins soon became a popular local sport. However, the tins were slightly dangerous when a toss was missed. It became the Yale custom to yell "Frisbie" when throwing a pie tin.

Walter Frederick Morrison, the son of the inventor of the automotile sealed-beam headlight, returned home after World War II. His encounter with flying saucer and "Frisbie Pies" gave him the idea to create something playful. Initially he welded a steel ring inside the rim to improve the plate's stability, but without success. Later he adopted plastic. Plastic was the ideal stuff for Frisbee, it seems impossible to imagine anything better. And, perhaps, **Frisbee is plastic's finest form.**

Source: <https://www.thoughtco.com/inventive-thinking-and-creativity-1991217>

<http://www.whatisultimate.com/history/of-frisbeesflying-discs/>

[scienceandsamosa.com](http://www.whatisultimate.com/history/of-frisbeesflying-discs/)

Ear muffs and Chester Greenwood



It was the year 1873. As an avid ice skater at age 15, Chester took full advantage of the local frozen ponds whenever he could. Unfortunately, in the cold winters of southwestern Maine, Chester found that he couldn't skate for long for two reasons:

his ears would get frostbitten more easily than others; and he was allergic to the protective wool caps with ear coverings that were, at the time, typically used as ear protectors. To protect his ears while ice skating, he found a piece of wire, and with his grandmother's help, padded the ends.

In the beginning, his friends laughed at him. However, when they realized that he was able to stay outside skating long after they had gone inside freezing, they stopped laughing. Instead, they began to ask Chester to make ear covers for them, too.



Ear muffs and Chester Greenwood



At age 17 Chester applied for a patent. Chester made many improvements to the protectors, so that eventually the wire was replaced by bands, the pads became hinged for greater pressure against the ear, and they were given portability. **Within 10 years, Chester built a small factory near Farmington which employed 11 workers, producing 50,000 pair of protectors in 1883.**

Source: <https://www.thoughtco.com/inventive-thinking-and-creativity-1991217>

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/capital-weather-gang/wp/2016/03/02/the-story-of-the-modern-day-earmuff-and-its-inventor-chester-greenwood/?utm_term=.0a97c992b225



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Henry Ford and “Edison’s Last Breath?”



Henry worked as an engineer at the Edison Illumination Company where he met Thomas Edison. Edison was Ford’s role model. In 1896 Ford was thirty-three and, though still working for Edison Co., had created his first experimental automobile — the Ford Quadricycle — during his off-time.

At an Edison company party in New York, Ford had his first chance to meet his hero Edison, and was even able to explain his new automobile to the prolific inventor. Edison was impressed, and is said to have slammed his fist down and shouted “Young man, that’s the thing! You have it! Your car is self contained and carries its own power plant.” The words comforted Ford tremendously, who immediately set out to build a second prototype which became the Model-T. The two men became fast friends and would go on camping trips together along with naturalist John Burroughs, botanist Luther Burbank.



Henry Ford and “Edison’s Last Breath?”



It’s no surprise that Ford wanted something to remember Edison by after he passed away in 1931. As the legend goes, Ford asked Thomas Edison’s son Charles to sit by the dying inventor’s bedside and hold a test tube next to his father’s mouth to catch his final breath. This test tube was then given to Ford. **The tube was labeled “Edison’s Last Breath?”**

Source: <http://www.atlasobscura.com/places/edisons-last-breath-henry-ford-museum>



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C V Raman, the first Asian to win Nobel prize



One day in 1903, Professor Eliot of Presidency College, Madras, saw a little boy in his B.A. Class.

Thinking that he might have strayed into the room, the Professor asked, “Are you a student of the B.A. class?”
“Yes Sir,” the boy answered.

“Your name?”

“C.V. Raman.”

This little incident made the fourteen- year- old boy well known in the college.

Raman’s journey to England and back was by sea. In his leisure hours, he used to sit on the upper deck of the ship and enjoy the beauty of the vast sea. The deep blue color of the Mediterranean Sea interested the scientist in him. Was the blue due to the reflection of the blue sky? If so, how could it appear in the absence of light? Even when big waves rolled over the surface, the blue remained.



C V Raman, the first Asian to win Nobel prize

As he thought over the problem, it flashed to him that the blue color might be caused by the scattering of the sun's light by water molecules. This observation finally led to his great work 'Raman Effect'. Investigations making use of the Raman Effect began in many countries.

During the first twelve years after its discovery, about 1800 research papers were published on various aspects of it and about 2500 chemical compounds were studied. Raman Effect was highly praised as one of the greatest discoveries of the third decade of this century.

Source: <http://inspireminds.in/englishblog/275/story-of-cvraman-who-won-nobel-prize-for-physics.html>



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