

# All About April Fools' Day



## What Is April Fools' Day?



April Fools' Day is a fun day.



It is also called All Fools' Day.



It is celebrated in lots of places around the world on 1<sup>st</sup> April.

## What Do People Do on April Fools' Day?



People might make jokes and play tricks on each other.



Some people shout, "April fool!" after they have played a trick. This is to let the person know they have been fooled.

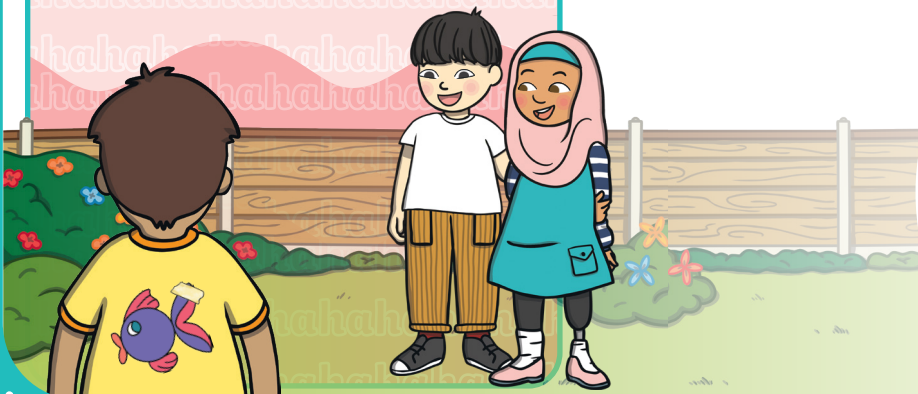


People only play tricks in the morning in England. You are the 'April fool' if you play a trick after 12 o'clock.



### Remember

It is important not to hurt anyone's feelings when playing tricks on them.



# Questions

1. What kind of day is April Fools' Day? Tick one.

- ☐ a sad day
- ☐ a long day
- ☐ a fun day

2. When is April Fools' Day? Tick one.

- ☐ 25<sup>th</sup> December
- ☐ 1<sup>st</sup> April
- ☐ 3<sup>rd</sup> March

3. What time should you stop playing tricks in England? Tick one.

- ☐ 10 o'clock
- ☐ 11 o'clock
- ☐ 12 o'clock

4. Which of the following is another name for April Fools' day? Tick one.

- ☐ Fun Day
- ☐ All Fools' Day
- ☐ Fools' Day

5. What do some people shout after they have played a trick? Tick one.

- ☐ 'April fool!'
- ☐ 'Tricked you!'
- ☐ 'Happy April!'

# Answers

1. What kind of day is April Fools' Day? Tick one.

- ☐ a sad day
- ☐ a long day
- ☒ **a fun day**

2. When is April Fools' Day? Tick one.

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- ☒ **1<sup>st</sup> April**
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- ☐ 11 o'clock
- ☒ **12 o'clock**

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- ☒ **All Fools' Day**
- ☐ Fools' Day

5. What do some people shout after they have played a trick? Tick one.

- ☒ **'April fool!'**
- ☐ 'Tricked you!'
- ☐ 'Happy April!'

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**Remember**  
It is important not to hurt anyone's feelings when playing tricks on them.

## A Famous Hoax

The BBC played a famous trick on the public in 1957. They made a film of people picking spaghetti from trees. Some people were fooled by it and thought they could get their own spaghetti tree!



## Did You Know...?

A hoax is when you trick somebody into believing something that isn't true.

## What Is April Fools' Day?

April Fools' Day is a fun day that is celebrated in many places around the world on 1<sup>st</sup> April. It is sometimes called All Fools' Day. It is a day when people might play tricks or tell hoax stories.

## April Fools' Day Traditions

A tradition is something that has been done in the same way for a long time. It is the tradition in England to only play tricks until 12 o'clock. Anyone who plays a trick after 12 o'clock is the 'April fool'.

Some people shout, "April fool!" after they have played a trick. This is to let the person know they have been fooled.

April Fools' Day is called Gowk Day in Scotland and playing an April Fools' trick is called Hunk the Gowk. 'Gowk' is a Scottish word that can mean fool or cuckoo. It is a day to send someone to look for something that doesn't exist.

# Questions

1. What is another name for April Fools' Day? Tick one.

- ☐ All Fools' Day
- ☐ April Day
- ☐ Joking Day

2. When is April Fools' Day?

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3. What time should you stop playing tricks in England?

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4. Circle the word that means that something has been done in the same way for a long time.

*It is the tradition in England to only play tricks until 12 o'clock.*

5. Which of the following make this sentence true? Tick one.

**The BBC played a famous trick on the public in 1957. They made a film of people picking \_\_\_\_\_.**

- ☐ leaves from a tree
- ☐ spaghetti from a tree
- ☐ noodles from a bush

# Answers

1. What is another name for April Fools' Day? Tick one.

☒ **All Fools' Day**

☐ April Day

☐ Joking Day

2. When is April Fools' Day?

**April Fools' Day is celebrated on 1<sup>st</sup> April.**

3. What time should you stop playing tricks in England?

**You should stop playing tricks at 12 o'clock in England.**

4. Circle the word that means that something has been done in the same way for a long time.

*It is the tradition in England to only play tricks until 12 o'clock.*

**Award 1 mark for:**

- **tradition**

5. Which of the following make this sentence true? Tick one.

**The BBC played a famous trick on the public in 1957. They made a film of people picking \_\_\_\_\_.**

☐ leaves from a tree

☒ **spaghetti from a tree**

☐ noodles from a bush

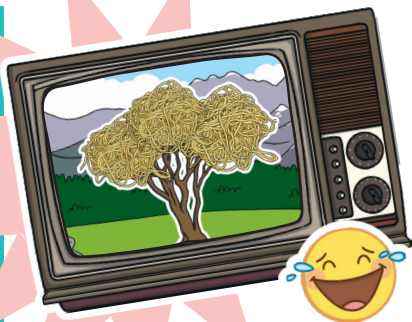


# All About April Fools' Day



## A Famous Hoax

The BBC played a famous **prank** on the public in 1957. They made a film of people picking spaghetti from trees. Some people were fooled and asked where they could get their own spaghetti tree!



## What Is April Fools' Day?

April Fools' Day is a fun day that is celebrated in many places around the world on 1<sup>st</sup> April. It is sometimes called All Fools' Day. It is a day when people might play practical jokes, pranks or tell hoax stories. Even television programmes and newspapers might report hoax stories.

## April Fools' Day Traditions

It is **tradition** in England to only play tricks until 12 o'clock. Anyone who plays a trick after this time is said to be the 'April Fool'.

Some people shout, "April fool!" after they have played a trick. This is to let the person know they have been fooled or tricked.

## Did You Know...?

A hoax is when you trick somebody into believing something that isn't true.

## April Fools' Day Around the World



April Fools' Day is called Gowk Day in Scotland and playing an April Fools' trick is called Hunk the Gowk. 'Gowk' is a Scottish word that can mean fool or cuckoo. It is a day to send someone on a fool's errand. This means to send someone to look for something that doesn't exist.

### Remember

April Fools' Day should be harmless fun. It is important not to hurt anyone's feelings when joking and playing tricks on them.



The traditions of April Fools' Day last for two days in Portugal. They are the Sunday and Monday before Lent and people might throw flour at each other as one of their main pranks.



April Fools' Day is called poisson d'avril in France. Poisson d'avril translates to 'April Fish'. People tape paper fish to other people's backs and shout, "Poisson d'avril!"



### Glossary

#### prank:

When you play a trick on somebody as a joke.

#### tradition:

Something that has been done the same way for a long time.



# Questions

1. What does 'poisson d'avril' mean? Tick one.

- ☐ April Fish  
☐ Happy Fish  
☐ Fish Day

2. Draw **three** lines to match the country to the April Fools' Day tradition.

Scotland

people throw flour at  
their friends

France

people are sent on a  
fool's errand

Portugal

people tape paper fish  
to their friends backs

3. Look at the first paragraph.

What is April Fools' Day sometimes called?

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4. Fill in the missing word.

It is a day when people might play practical jokes, pranks or tell  
\_\_\_\_\_ stories.

5. Why should you avoid playing a trick after 12 o'clock in England?

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6. Would you play an April Fools' trick on your friends and family?  
Explain your answer.

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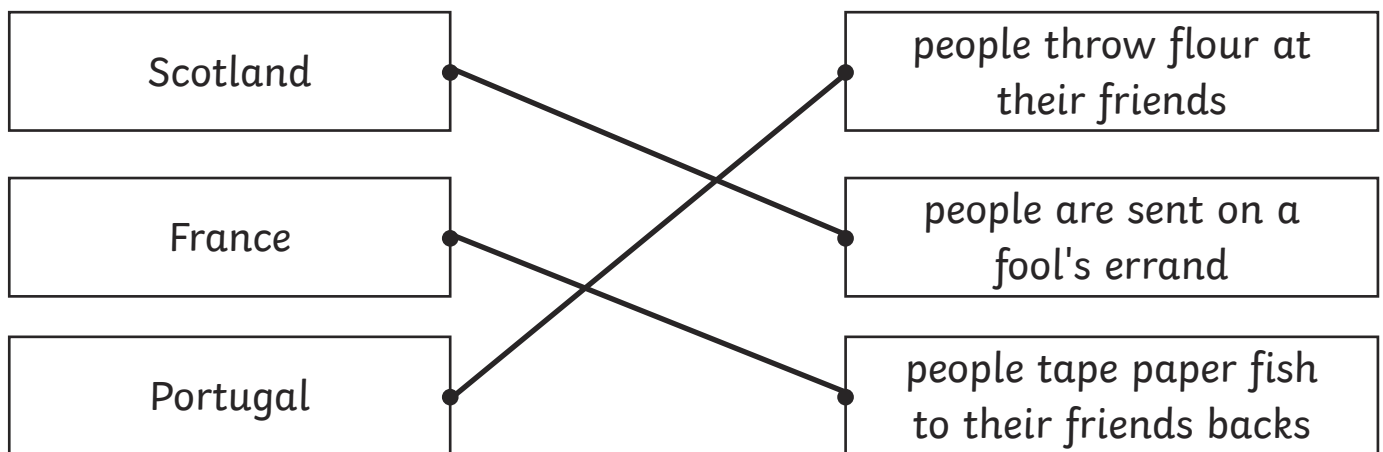
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# Answers

1. What does 'poisson d'avril' mean? Tick one.

- ☒ **April Fish**  
☐ Happy Fish  
☐ Fish Day

2. Draw **three** lines to match the country to the April Fools' Day tradition.



3. Look at the first paragraph.

What is April Fools' Day sometimes called?

**April Fools' Day is sometimes called All Fools' Day.**

4. Fill in the missing word.

It is a day when people might play practical jokes, pranks or tell **hoax** stories.

5. Why should you avoid playing a trick after 12 o'clock in England?

**If you play a trick after 12 o'clock then, the joke will be on you!**

6. Would you play an April Fools' trick on your friends and family?

Explain your answer.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: Yes, I would play a trick on my friends and family because I think they would find it funny. I would enjoy making them laugh.**