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◆ Croquet - *Pine Creek Miniature Golf*

Alice thought she had never seen such a curious croquet-ground in her life; it was all ridges and furrows; the balls were live hedgehogs, the mallets live flamingoes, and the soldiers had to double themselves up and stand on their hands and feet, to make the arches.

♥ Cheshire Cat Grins - Pawtisserie

"All right," said the Cat; and this time it vanished quite slowly, beginning with the end of the tail, and ending with the grin, which remained some time after the rest of it had gone.

"Well! I've often seen a cat without a grin," thought Alice; "but a grin without a cat! It's the most curious thing I ever saw in my life!"

♣ Cottingsley Fairy Hoax - Princeton University Art Museum

In 1918, sixteen-year-old Elsie Wright and her cousin Frances took pictures of what they claimed were the fairies living behind their house. When the pictures appeared in a London newspaper, they caused an incredible stir! Many thought they were faked, but no one (not even the experts) could prove it. For years, the photographs remained a mystery. Only when she was an old lady did Elsie finally admit that the fairies were cardboard cutouts she had drawn herself!

♦ Curiouser and Curiouser - Princeton Center for Complex Materials "Curiouser and curiouser!" cried Alice. (She was so much surprised, that for the moment she quite forgot how to speak good English.) "Now I'm opening like the largest telescope that ever was! Good-bye, feet!"

♠ Eat Me! Drink Me! - The Bent Spoon

She was just going to leave the room, when her eye fell upon a little bottle that stood near the looking-glass. There was no label this time with the words "DRINK ME," but nevertheless she uncorked it and put it to her lips. "I know something interesting is sure to happen," she said to herself, "whenever I eat or drink anything; so I'll just see what this bottle does."

♥ Giant Chess - Princeton Chess Club

Alice stood without speaking, looking out in all directions over the country – and a most curious country it was. There were a number of tiny little brooks running straight across it from side to side, and the ground between was divided up into squares by a number of little green hedges.

"I declare it's marked out just like a large chessboard!" Alice said at last.

♣ Learning by Heart - Labyrinth Books

In Victorian schools, lessons were memorized. Adults believed that rhyming poems made things easier to learn, so they wrote poems in order to teach children. As children got older, they had to recite longer and more complicated poems, and parents would even make them recite at home. Especially when guests were over - they loved to show off how smart their children were!

♦ Living Large - Princeton Public Library

The world record for the smallest handwriting is currently held by Iranian artist Raeen Khanzadeh. He can create Arabic calligraphy so small that he can inscribe entire paragraphs on a grain of rice!

▲ London Bridge - Engineering Projects in Community Service

Thanks to the Industrial Revolution, London was the site of many new bridges, such as Blackfriars Bridge, Waterloo Bridge, and of course, London Bridge (best-known for the nursery rhyme London Bridge is Falling Down). At the beginning of the century, London bridge was falling down – it was over 600 years old! The new London Bridge was completed in 1831. And, unlike most of the bridges of the time, there was no charge for walking across it!

▼ Looking Glass Insects - PrinctonKids

"Half way up that bush, you'll see a Rocking-horse-fly, if you look. It's made entirely of wood, and gets about by swinging itself from branch to branch."

"What does it live on?" Alice asked, with great curiosity.

"Sap and sawdust," said the Gnat.

♣ Looking Glass Magic - Princeton University Chemistry Outreach Alice laughed. "There's no use trying," she said, "one can't believe impossible things."

"I daresay you haven't had much practice," said the Queen. "When I was your age, I always did it for half-an-hour a day. Why, sometimes I've believed as many as six impossible things before breakfast."

♦ Mad Hatters - Red Green Blue

"Mad as a hatter" is an expression with historical roots. In the 19th century, mercury was used to make hats. We know now that mercury can make you sick – causing tremors, aggressiveness, mood swings, and other sorts of unfortunate behavior. Carroll may have also taken his inspiration for the Mad Hatter from Mr. Theophilus Carter, an Oxford cabinet maker with a reputation for eccentricity (for example, he invented the *alarm-clock bed*, which woke people by tipping the bed over!).

♠ Mushroom Bowling - YMCA

There was a large mushroom growing near her, about the same height as herself; and when she had looked under it, and on both sides of it, and behind it, it occurred to her that she might as well look and see what was on the top of it.

▼ Painting White Roses Red - Everlasting Blossoms

A large rose-tree stood near the entrance of the garden: the roses growing on it were white, but there were three gardeners at it, busily painting them red. Alice thought this a very curious thing, and she went nearer to watch them, and just as she came up to them she heard one of them say, "Look out now, Five! Don't go splashing paint over me like that!"

♣ Paper Play - Jazams

Think you can stack cards? Bryan Berg can REALLY stack cards! Mr. Berg holds several World Records for card stacking, including one for the world's tallest house of cards - a 25 foot tall "skyscraper"!

♦ Penny-Farthing Races - Princeton Tour Company

Cycling was extremely popular in Victorian England. You could take a spin on a penny-farthing, a bike with a huge front wheel (sometimes as big as 5 feet in diameter) and a tiny rear wheel. They were called penny-farthings because the size difference between front wheel and the rear wheel were similar to the size differences between the penny coin and the farthing coin (a penny was much bigger than a farthing). A thrilling ride no doubt!

♠ Puzzling Publications - Curious Parents Magazine

Only 1 in 3 Britons could read and write at the beginning of the 1800's, but by the end of the century, almost everyone in England could read! As a result, demand for published materials boomed. Popular authors included Jane Austen, Robert Louis Stevenson, Charles Dickens, Rudyard Kipling, and, of course, Lewis Carroll. This was also the era of "serialization," when long novels were published chapter by chapter over a course of several months in a newspaper or magazine. People would crowd their local news stand so that they could read about the continuing adventures of their favorite characters.

- ▼ Snark Hunt Princeton University Department of Athletics
 The Hunting of the Snark is a nonsense poem by Lewis Carroll. It tells the story of a group of ten adventurers who, guided by a blank map, cross the seas to an unknown island in search of a snark. The only description of a snark comes from the leader of the hunters, who says that snarks sleep late, have no sense of humor, and feed on greens. Most snarks can be caught easily unless you run into a dreaded boojum, which would cause you to "softly and suddenly vanish away"!
- ♣ Steam Engines Princeton Engineering Education for Kids
 In 1804, Richard Trevithick designed a locomotive that utilized the recently invented steam engine. Its first journey was nine miles long, which was accomplished in about four hours! Locomotives didn't start transporting people until twenty years later. By 1854 every English town of any size was connected by rail. The five stations right on the borders of London were eventually creating serious traffic problems, leading to the opening of the London Underground, the very first subway system, in 1863.

♦ Tea Tasting - Ducky Life Tea

Did you know that, according to a book published in 1897, 80 million cups of tea were consumed in Victorian England PER DAY! Quite a bit of tea, that!

♠ The Real Alice - Elizabeth Lemoine '09, Miranda Sachs '11
Alice Liddell is best know as the little girl who inspired the Alice stories. Lewis
Carroll was friends with her family, and he photographed Alice and her family
quite often. One summer day in 1862, Carroll took Alice and her sisters on a
boating trip. To keep them amused, he told them a story about Alice's adventures underground. Eventually, he wrote the story down, illustrated it himself,
and gave it to her as a present. Later he expanded the tale, commissioned
John Tenniel to illustrate it, and published it as the book, Alice's Adventures in
Wonderland.

▼ Time for Tea - Taking Tea in Style

Victorians traditionally had two meals per day: breakfast and supper. That's a long time to go without snacks! So, afternoon tea was created by the Duchess of Bedford. At first, the Duchess asked her servants to sneak her a pot of tea and a few biscuits. Eventually, she invited friends to share her impromptu afternoon snack, serving small cakes, bread and butter sandwiches, assorted sweets, and, of course, tea. Queen Victoria quickly adopted the new craze of hosting tea parties and tea time became a social gathering for men and women alike.

♣ Victorian Visual Toys - Arts Council of Princeton

In Alice's time, a lot of the new toys were inspired by scientific developments, and optical toys were the most popular of all. Stores were full of these inventions, which had funny names like zoetrope, thaumatrope, and praxinoscopes! Using mirrors or a series of images, they created the illusion of a moving picture. Essentially, they worked in the same way as modern movies. To Victorian children they must have seemed like magic!

♦ Who is Charles Dodgson? - Lewis Carroll Society of North America What would happen if you took the name Charles Lutwidge Dodgson, translated the first two parts into Latin (Carolus Ludovicus), reversed their order (Ludovicus Carolus) and then loosely translated them back into English? Why, that would be "Lewis Carroll"!