

2/15/26

This Week in History

Estimated play time: Varies

Number of players: Unlimited

Supplies needed: Scoring board/pad

Suitable for visually impaired players.

Overview:

This weekly quiz looks at historical events for each day of this coming week – just a question or two per day. You can choose to make this a standard group game ... or you might think about posting the questions for each day – perhaps in the dining room or the elevator – to inspire participation even from those residents who don't join in on the group game activities.

Instructions:

1. This game can be played by individuals or in teams.
2. Read the first clue. Discussion is permitted among teammates. Prior to the start of the game, a method to signal when a player/team is ready to answer must be determined. Ringing bells and New Year's blowers are just two inexpensive noisemakers. Raised hands work, but the host must be vigilant to watch for whose hand went up first. The host always has the final say in any disputes.
3. After a player/team is recognized as the first to signal, they may give an answer. If the first answer is incorrect, the others may 'buzz' in and answer.
4. Keep score (10 points for each answer) after each question is answered correctly. Play until all questions have been asked and answered.

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This Week in History

FEBRUARY 15

1. 1927. The silent film *IT* was released in American theaters, and this star became Hollywood's first "It" girl.
2. 1965. Canada replaced this official national flag with a new flag that featured a maple leaf design in the center.

FEBRUARY 16

3. 1923. Archaeologist Howard Carter used a single candle to peer into a crack in the tomb of this Egyptian pharaoh and saw an intact room full of gold and ebony treasures inside.
4. 1937. Chemistry, commerce, and culture all collided when DuPont scientist, Wallace H. Carothers, received a United States patent for nylon. This new "miracle" material was the first that was created entirely in a lab without using plants or animals. What was the first major use for nylon?

FEBRUARY 17

5. 1867. The first ship passed through this newly finished canal that created a passageway from the Mediterranean Sea to the Red Sea.
6. 2014. After a total of 21 years as host of *The Tonight Show*, Jay Leno was replaced by this *Saturday Night Live* comedian.

FEBRUARY 18

7. 1861. This US Representative from Mississippi was inaugurated as the provisional president of the Confederate States of America.
8. 1930. This distant planet was discovered by Clyde Tombaugh. Sadly, 75 years later, it was demoted to the status of dwarf planet.

FEBRUARY 19

9. 1878. The patent for the phonograph was awarded to this American inventor.
10. 1942. President Franklin Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, which gave the US military authority to relocate and intern these citizens.

FEBRUARY 20

11. 1992. This business leader appeared on CNN's *Larry King Live* and announced his intention to run for president as an Independent if his supporters could get his name on the ballot in all fifty states.
12. 1962. This US astronaut was successfully launched into space. He then orbited the earth three times before splashing down in the Atlantic Ocean roughly five hours later.

FEBRUARY 21

13. 1965. This controversial Muslim leader, who rose from a life of petty crime to become one of the most influential African Americans in history, was gunned down in New York City at the age of 39.
14. 1995. American aviator and adventurer Steve Fossett landed in Leader, Saskatchewan, Canada, becoming the first person to make a solo flight across the Pacific Ocean in this conveyance.

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This Week in History

ANSWERS

FEBRUARY 15

1. Clara Bow
2. The Union Jack flag of the British Commonwealth had been the official flag of Canada from its early colonial period.

FEBRUARY 16

3. King Tutankhamen
4. Women's stockings, which became an overnight sensation and signaled a shift toward a new era of synthetic consumer goods.

FEBRUARY 17

5. The Suez Canal, which is now considered to define the border between Africa and Asia
6. Jimmy Fallon

FEBRUARY 18

7. Jefferson Davis
8. Pluto

FEBRUARY 19

9. Thomas Edison
10. Japanese Americans. On this same date thirty-four years later (in 1976), President Gerald Ford rescinded the executive order that led to the internment of Japanese Americans.

FEBRUARY 20

11. Ross Perot
12. John Glenn

FEBRUARY 21

13. Malcolm X
14. A hot air balloon. Fossett disappeared in 2007 while flying a light aircraft over the desert in Nevada and California. One year later, a hiker found Fossett's identification cards, and shortly thereafter the wreckage of Fossett's plane was discovered. His only known remains, two large bones, were found half a mile from the crash site, probably scattered by wild animals.