

Groundhog Day Trivia



Fill In the Blank Questions

1. The only two countries who celebrate Groundhog Day are _____ and _____.
2. An ancient holiday known as _____ evolved into _____, which then became Groundhog Day.
3. The _____ were the first to use small animals as a prediction tool for the spring forecast and favored the _____ as their forecaster.
4. Groundhogs are also called _____.
5. The elite group who manage Punxsutawney Phil and his annual celebration are called the _____, which is part of the larger group known as the _____.
6. Other famous groundhog forecasters besides Phil include _____ and _____.
7. The movie *Groundhog Day* starred actor _____ and was released in _____.
8. In 2010 animal rights activists from PETA suggested replacing the live groundhog with a _____ one.
9. During the Punxsutawney ceremony members of the inner circle speak _____ and wear _____.
10. In ancient traditions, Medieval cults designated the _____ and the English designated the _____ as the annual weather forecasting animal.

Multiple Choice Questions:

1. In what year did the first official Groundhog Day celebration take place?
 - a) 1952
 - b) 1887
 - c) 1776
 - d) 1981

2. The man who started the annual Punxsutawney traditions on Groundhog Day worked in what profession?
 - a) Journalism
 - b) Outdoorsman gear sales
 - c) Banking
 - d) Teaching

3. What is the approximate population of Punxsutawney, PA where famed forecaster Punxsutawney Phil lives?
 - a) 1,500
 - b) 10,000
 - c) 6,000
 - d) 3,400

4. According to legend, Punxsutawney Phil is how old thanks to the magic potion he drinks each year?
 - a) 131
 - b) 1,002
 - c) 85
 - d) 448

5. Which legendary talk show host featured Punxsutawney Phil as a guest in 1995?
 - a) Ricki Lake
 - b) Phil Donahue
 - c) Oprah Winfrey
 - d) Geraldo Rivera

6. What is the highest number of visitors to Gobbler's Knob to celebrate Groundhog Day?
 - a) 55,000
 - b) 10,000
 - c) 100,000
 - d) 35,000

7. The Punxsutawney celebration lasts how long?
 - a) One week
 - b) Three days
 - c) One day
 - d) Three weeks

8. Residents of Vermillion, Ohio use this creature to predict the spring forecast rather than a groundhog?
 - a) Spider
 - b) Mouse
 - c) Beaver
 - d) Caterpillar

9. Groundhogs make a unique sound called what?
 - a) A whistle
 - b) A scream
 - c) A grunt
 - d) A whisper

10. Most groundhogs live where?
 - a) Alaska
 - b) Eastern U.S.
 - c) South America
 - d) Eastern Canada

True or False Questions:

1. In the movie Groundhog Day, the celebration was filmed in Punxsutawney, PA.
2. Staten Island Chuck is a more accurate forecaster than Punxsutawney Phil.
3. Groundhogs can live up to ten years in captivity.
4. If the groundhog sees his shadow on this day, it means an early spring.
5. The Punxsutawney Groundhog Club was a group of groundhog preservationists hoping to spread awareness to keep the groundhog from going extinct.
6. Before having his name changed to Punxsutawney Phil, the famous groundhog was called Br'er Groundhog.
7. Punxsutawney Phil has a wife named Phyllis.
8. The most famous Canadian groundhog is Ontario Olly.
9. Groundhogs are one of the few animals who truly hibernate.
10. Punxsutawney Phil's full name is Punxsutawney Phillip.

Groundhog Day Trivia Answers

Fill In the Blank Answers:

1. Canada, United States
2. Ibolc, Candlemas
3. Germans, Hedgehog
4. Woodchucks
5. Inner Circle, Punxsutawney Groundhog Club
6. Shubenacadie Sam, Staten Island Chuck, General Beauregard Lee, Wiarton Willie, Dunkirk Dave, Pierre C. Shadeaux, and Grover the Groundhog are acceptable.
7. Bill Murray, 1993
8. Robotic
9. Groundhogese (or Pennsylvania Dutch), Top Hats
10. Bear, Badger

Multiple Choice Answers:

1. b) It took place on February 2, 1887 in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania
2. a) Clymer Freas, who developed the idea, was a newspaper editor.
3. c) As of 2018 the population is 5,813.
4. a) He was born in 1887.
5. c) The episode aired on Groundhog Day 1995.
6. d) While crowds typically number in the low tens of thousands, after the movie Groundhog Day came out there were as many as 35,000 visitors in one year.
7. b) The last day of the celebration is the prediction day.
8. d) If the woolly bear caterpillar has more orange than black coloring in autumn, the upcoming winter will be mild.
9. a) They whistle at potential mates or when scared.
10. b) Most live in the Eastern and Central U.S. while some are found in Canada and Alaska.

True or False Answers:

1. False. It was filmed in Woodstock, Illinois.
2. True. Chuck's success rate is about 70% while Phil's is only 40%.
3. True. In the wild they only live about six years.
4. False. If he sees his shadow, he gets scared because there will be 6 more weeks of winter.
5. False. They were a group of groundhog hunters.
6. True. The name Phil was chosen in honor of King Philip.
7. True. Although spectators don't get to see her, Phyllis lives with Phil.
8. False. His name is Wiarton Willie from Wiarton, Ontario.
9. True. They enter this coma-like state in the wild, but many famous groundhogs are kept in conditions that prevent them from hibernating through the Groundhog Day celebrations.
10. False. His full name is Punxsutawney Phil, Seer of Seers, Sage of Sages, Prognosticator of Prognosticators, and Weather Prophet Extraordinary.

