

'More Birthdays! We Are Not Amused'

Comprehension Questions

1. When is Queen Elizabeth's actual birthday?

2. During whose reign were the rules changed to create an 'official' birthday for the monarch? Why?

3. What did the Mad Hatter create in 'Alice in Wonderland'?

4. What is the 'Trooping the Colour'?

5. When did Australia begin to officially celebrate the sovereign's birthday?

6. Which Australian states changed the date of the Queen's official birthday? Why?

7. When do Canadians celebrate the Queen's Birthday? What other holiday does this coincide with?

8. Name two animals the Queen has received as gifts in the past.

9. Why isn't the Queen's Birthday celebrated now in Fiji?

10. Name one other reason why someone might have more than one birthday. What famous bear has two birthdays?

Extension:

Research the Julian and Gregorian calendars. Why was the change made from one to the other? What are the differences? Which countries still use the Julian calendar? Create a fact file about the calendars.

Imagine being invited to celebrate the Queen's birthday at Buckingham Palace. What would you take as a present? Why? How would the Queen respond? Write out your imagined experience as a script.

Find out about one of the countries/territories mentioned in the article and create an interesting fact file or information text entry about it. Why does this particular place still celebrate the Queen's birthday? Is it an overseas territory or a Commonwealth country? When did it belong to Britain? Does the Queen feature on the money of the country?
