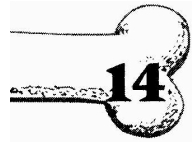


Science Skills 6

Reading Charts



14 Charts: Daredevils of Niagara Falls

Most people feel a thrill just by gazing at Niagara Falls from a safe distance. But Niagara Falls has attracted more than its share of daredevils. Some have plummeted over the edge of the falls, while others have crossed over on tightropes. Read the charts to learn about some of these thrill-seekers. Then answer the questions.

Stunt Rides Over Niagara Falls

Name of Person(s)	Year	Type of Vessel
Annie Taylor	1901	wooden barrel
Bobby Leach	1911	steel barrel
Jean Lussier	1928	rubber ball with steel frame
Nathan Boya	1961	rubber ball with steel frame (exact copy of Lussier's craft)
Karl Soucek	1984	metal and fiberglass barrel
Steven Trotter	1985	plastic barrel wrapped with rubber tubes
David Munday	1985	steel barrel
Peter Debernardi and Jeffrey Petkovich	1989	steel barrel
David Munday	1995	steel barrel
Steven Trotter and Lori Martin	1995	steel barrel coated with Kevlar®

Tightrope Crossings Over Niagara Falls

Name of Person(s)	Year	Special Feat(s)
Jean François Gravelet	1859	first person to cross Niagara Falls on tightrope; did a somersault and drank from a bottle on rope
William Leonard Hunt	1860	crossed with an old-fashioned washing machine strapped on his back
Andrew Jenkins	1869	rode across tightrope on a bicycle
Maria Spelterina	1876	first woman to cross Niagara Falls on a tightrope; walked backwards, wore a paper bag on her head, and walked with baskets attached to her feet
Clifford Calverley	1892	set a speed record by making a crossing in 6 minutes and 32.5 seconds

Source: niagaraparks.com

Daredevils of Niagara Falls *(continued)*

1. Which stunt rider went over Niagara Falls in a wooden barrel?

2. Who was the first person to cross Niagara Falls on a tightrope?

3. In what year did Maria Spelterina cross Niagara Falls on a tightrope?

4. What type of vessel did Steven Trotter use for his first ride over Niagara Falls?

5. How were the stunt rides of Jean Lussier and Nathan Boya alike?

6. What pairs of stunt riders rode over Niagara Falls together?

7. What special feat did William Leonard Hunt do on a tightrope over Niagara Falls?

8. In what years did David Munday ride over Niagara Falls in a barrel?

9. How long did it take Clifford Calverley to cross Niagara Falls on a tightrope?

10. Who made a tightrope crossing on a bicycle?

