

What may at first seem ordinary is not always that ordinary. Sometimes the things we see can change before your eyes! What do you see in this picture? A rabbit or a duck? Hint: the rabbit faces one way (left) and the duck faces the other (right).

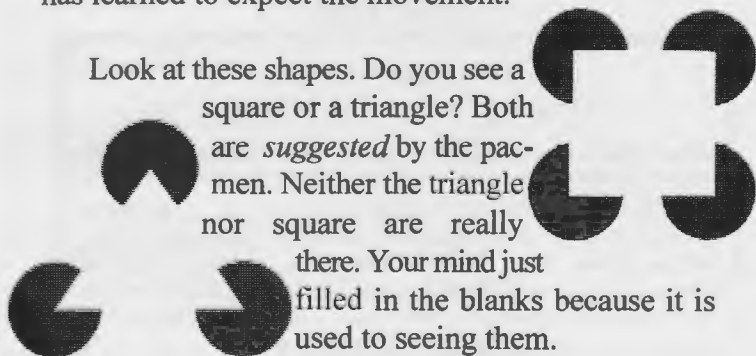


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 By Lanny and Marilyn Johnson

WHAT YOU SEE IS NOT WHAT YOU ALWAYS GET

The eye is an amazing and powerful optical tool. The eye can detect colors, adjust rapidly to the brightness of the surrounding light and focus automatically. Modern cameras have only recently started to approach this level of sophistication. However, the eye and the brain still can do something that modern technology cannot do and that is automatically recognize its image (or picture)-even when part of it is not there or not seen clearly. Sometimes our brain can be tricked by what our eyes see. When this happens we call it an **optical illusion**. We learn to *understand* or perceive what we are looking at, and we get used to how things are *supposed* to be. Sometimes our brains fill in the missing pieces. Other times our brains get the clues all wrong.

When you watch television you are watching an optical illusion. It looks like the pictures on the TV are moving, but they are not. Television is really lots of still pictures that are shown to us very quickly. Our brain cannot look at that many pictures one right after another that quickly, and it puts the images together because it has learned to expect the movement.

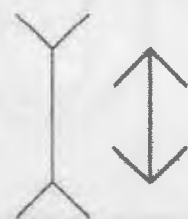
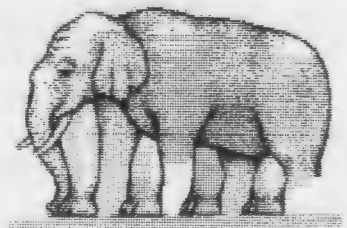


Look at these shapes. Do you see a square or a triangle? Both are *suggested* by the pac-men. Neither the triangle nor square are really there. Your mind just filled in the blanks because it is used to seeing them.



What do you see in the picture on the left? A wine glass or two faces looking at one another? Or both (you cannot see them both at the same time, but may be able to see alternating images)?

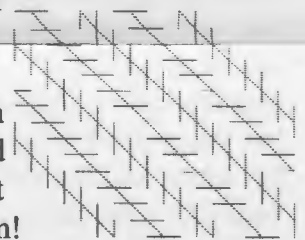
Look at the picture of the elephant. What do you see? Are you sure? Take a look at the legs and feet again.



Mueller-Lyer Illusion

Are the vertical lines in this picture equal in length? One may look shorter, but they are the same length. Measure them to see for your self.

Are these lines closer to each other at one end? They look crooked but are not. They are all straight and parallel lines. Measure them!



Zoellner Illusion

Optical illusions are perfectly normal. Every person with normal eyesight experiences them. We are simply deceived by what we see. God warns us "**(For we walk by faith, not by sight:)**" II Corinthians 5:7. Satan will use anything he can to trick you into not believing in God (false religions, evolution, etc.) But if you have faith in God and His Word (the Bible) you will not be deceived. "**And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall set you free.**" John 8:32

CRAZY CREATIONS

God has a great sense of humor! He made everything pictured below.....well maybe not as silly. Can you guess what each picture is? Answers at end of page.



A.



B.



C.



D.



ASK EUGENE

Dear Eugene: I don't really know much about you but I thought you could help me with a few questions that have been bugging me for quite a while. The way I found out about you was from a thing I got in the mail called Kids Think and Believe Too! I have never gotten such a powerful article before and I think you did a REALLY good job on it! Anyway back to the subject, I had this pen pal and we were just two regular kids who were writing to each other pretty often, then in one letter I got she asked if I watched a show on TV that was called The Simpsons. When I wrote back to her I said that I didn't because I was a Christian and my mom told me that it wasn't a good example or very Christian like to watch a show like that. Then I told her WHY, Because my heavenly Father's Son died on the cross for everyone in the world, and I know that it would hurt Him if I did something that wasn't Godly. Well, here's the bad part about the story. She never wrote me back. When I wrote her again and told her about God's LOVE, she still didn't write to me. Just yesterday I wrote her again but I really don't know how to prove that God is real. I've given her Bible verses, told her how bad hell is and the devil, told her how good heaven is, and that the earth around her show's all of the proof that God

exists. But what if she doesn't believe that either? What do I do then? **BYE!** Love Alyssa Carlson
Dear Alyssa: I'm glad that you enjoy Kids Think and Believe Too! It is always good to hear that what we share about God in this newsletter has an influence on kids (and adults too.) We really want to share Jesus with everybody, just as you did with your penpal, but the Bible tells us that not everybody will receive the truth of God's word. Read about the parable (story) of the sower in Matthew 13:1-23. The story teaches us that God's word will fall on many types of hearts. Some won't accept it; some will hear the word and believe, but in times of trouble will turn away; and others will hear and believe and understand. "Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." Christ Himself knew that most people will never be saved, even though He offers salvation as a free gift to all who will receive it (John 3:16.) For those who do believe in Jesus, He asks us to do something. He asks us to share the gospel with everybody (Matthew 28:18-20.) I'm glad that you are brave enough and strong enough to continue to follow God. The Simpsons and many other things out there in the world are certainly not Godly. God tells us in I John 2:15 "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world...." That doesn't mean don't love the earth or the people on the earth, but don't love the things of the world (property, beliefs, entertainment, etc.) Alyssa, keep praying for your friend, and keep planting the seeds of the gospel with everyone. Jesus will do the rest.

Love Ya, Eugene

Eugene's Address Is:

EUGENE
 C/O ALPHA OMEGA INSTITUTE
 P.O. BOX 4343
 GRAND JUNCTION, CO 81502

ANSWERS

A. Cowgirl B. Catfish C. Bulldog
 D. Furtree (firtree)

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