

**curiosity**

[ˌkjʊ(ə)rɪˈbʌsɪti] *n*

1. любознательность; пытливость  
curiosity about unknown lands - желание узнать побольше о неизвестных странах
2. любопытство  
to be eaten up with curiosity - быть снедаемым любопытством  
I was dying of curiosity [burning with curiosity] - я умирал [сгорал] от любопытства
3. странность
4. (a curiosity) редкая антикварная вещь  
old curiosity shop - антикварный магазин, «лавка древностей»  
◇ curiosity killed a cat - ≅ любопытство до добра не доведёт

**curiosity**

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**curi-ös-ity** [curiosity curiosities] *BrE* [ˌkjʊəriˈbʌsɪti] <sup>Ⓜ</sup> *NAmE* [ˌkjʊriˈɑːsəti] <sup>Ⓜ</sup>

**noun** (pl. **curi-ös-ities**)

1. **uncountable, singular** ~ (about sth) | ~ (to do sth) a strong desire to know about sth
  - Children show curiosity about everything.
  - a certain curiosity to see what would happen next
  - The letter wasn't addressed to me but I opened it **out of curiosity**.
  - His answer did not **satisfy my curiosity** at all.
  - Sophie's **curiosity was aroused** by the mysterious phone call.
  - intellectual curiosity
  - 'Why do you ask?' 'Oh, just **idle curiosity**' (= no particular reason).
2. **countable** an unusual and interesting thing
  - The museum is full of historical curiosities.

**Idiom:** ↑curiosity killed the cat

Word Origin:

late Middle English: from Old French **curiousete**, from Latin **curiositas**, from **curiosus** 'careful', from **cura** 'care'.

Example Bank:

- Harry's curiosity got the better of him and he unlocked the cupboard
- I needed to satisfy my curiosity about what it was like to make records.
- Kaylee stood staring with open curiosity.
- School should awaken a child's natural curiosity.
- She has an insatiable curiosity about life.
- The children watched us with mild curiosity.
- Their curiosity was aroused by his strange behaviour.
- We went to the show out of curiosity more than anything else.
- 'Why do you ask?' 'Oh, just idle curiosity'.
- I felt a certain curiosity to see what would happen next.
- Sophie's curiosity was aroused by the mysterious phone call.
- The letter wasn't addressed to me but I opened it out of curiosity.

**curiosity**

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

**curi-ös-ity** /ˌkjʊəriˈbʌsɪti, ˌkjʊəriˈbʌsɪti \$ ˌkjʊriˈɑːsɪ/ *BrE* <sup>Ⓜ</sup> *AmE* <sup>Ⓜ</sup> **noun** (plural **curiosities**)

1. [**singular, uncountable**] the desire to know about something:
  - Ⓜ I opened the packet just to satisfy my curiosity.
  - Ⓜ The news aroused a lot of curiosity among local people.
  - Ⓜ She decided to follow him out of curiosity.
  - Ⓜ Margaret looked at him with curiosity.

**curiosity about**

  - Ⓜ Children have a natural curiosity about the world around them.
  - Ⓜ a man of immense intellectual curiosity
  - Ⓜ It was idle curiosity that made me ask.
2. [**countable**] someone or something that is interesting because they are unusual or strange:
  - Ⓜ a house full of old maps and other curiosities
  - Ⓜ In the past, men who wanted to work with children were regarded as something of a curiosity.
  - Ⓜ It's not worth much, but I kept it for its curiosity value.
3. **curiosity killed the cat** used to tell someone not to ask too many questions about something

**COLLOCATIONS**

- **verbs**
  - **have a lot of curiosity** Bright children often have a lot of curiosity.
  - **satisfy somebody's curiosity** (=find out something that you want to know) I decided to call him in order to satisfy my curiosity.
  - **arouse somebody's curiosity** (=make someone want to know about something) New people in the village always aroused our curiosity.
  - **curiosity gets the better of somebody/overcomes somebody** (=makes you do something that you are trying not to do)

Curiosity got the better of me and I opened her diary.

- **pique somebody's curiosity** (=make someone want to know about something) Something she said had piqued his curiosity.

### ■ adjectives

- **natural curiosity** The children are encouraged to follow their natural curiosity, and learn about what interests them.
- **intellectual curiosity** Highly intelligent people are full of intellectual curiosity.
- **scientific curiosity** (=about scientific things) Their scientific curiosity led to the development of the vaccine.
- **idle curiosity** (=wanting to know something for no particular reason) Out of idle curiosity, I looked out of the window.
- **open curiosity** (=that you do not try to hide) The children were staring at her with open curiosity.
- **great/intense curiosity** His disappearance had obviously aroused great curiosity.
- **insatiable curiosity** (=used when someone is always curious) He had an insatiable curiosity about why people do the things they do.
- **mild curiosity** (=not great) I watched what was happening with mild curiosity.
- **morbid curiosity** (=a feeling of wanting to know about death or other bad things that happen) the morbid curiosity of the onlookers at the trial

### ■ phrases

- **be burning with curiosity** (=want to know about something very much) She was burning with curiosity about him, but was too polite to ask.
- **be an object/a subject of curiosity** (=be something or someone that makes people curious) Anyone new was always the object of our curiosity.

### ■ curiosity + NOUN

- **curiosity value** (=the quality or advantage of being something that people want to know about) When the shop was new it had curiosity value.

## curiosity

Freakuency Pack

12500 **5432**<sup>MCW</sup>

15000 **1982**<sup>COCA</sup>

RANGE: **3k** **CURIOUS** 17833

curious 10175

curiously 2107

curiosity 5551

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

4273 **6514**<sup>5551</sup> *nn1*