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[www.historyworks.tv](http://www.historyworks.tv)  
[@historyworkstv](https://twitter.com/historyworkstv)

A woman in a floral shirt is on the left, and a man is on the right, looking through a microscope. The background is a solid light blue.

# ISAAC NEWTON



# Newton's Theory of Gravity



**Sir Isaac Newton, famous for his work on the theory of gravity, never kept a record of what happened that day, back in 1666 or where in fact it happened!**

**A number of different stories still survive as to how and where Newton first thought about his theory of gravity, told by a variety of people.**

**Keith Moore from the Royal Society explained:**

**“The story was certainly true, but let’s say it got better with the telling.”**



# William's Stukely's Story

**William Stukely, who was a good friend of Newton's wrote about Newton's Discovery in his 'Memoirs of Issac Newton' in 1752.**

**He wrote:**

***'After dinner, the weather being warm, we went into the garden, and drank tea under the shade of some apple trees...he told me, he was just in the same situation as when formally, the notation of gravitation came to his mind. "Why should that apple always descend perpendicularly to the ground," thought he to himself.'***



# The Site of Newton's Discovery



**The tree mentioned in Stukely's story is still there today!**

**This picture shows the place where Newton is meant to have witnessed a green apple falling from the tree Outside his family home and first thought of his system of gravity.**

Woolsthorpe Manor - Isaac Newton's home  
Newton's Apple Tree © Nick Harrison, 2006

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**You can still visit this place today, as the house and grounds are now looked after by the National Trust.**

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# Cambridge's Very Own Newton's Apple Tree!



The Newton Apple Tree in Trinity College

**As a young man, Newton went to Trinity College in Cambridge to study.**

**Despite it being very unlikely that Newton actually made his discovery of gravity in the grounds of Trinity College, his college has now placed a special tree to remember him.**

## **FACTOID!**

**The tree is of the Flower of Kent variety which produces green cooking apples. It was grafted from the original tree at Newton's home and was planted in 1954.**



# Newton's Theory of Light

## **FACTOID!**

It is thought that Newton bought a prism at Stourbridge Fair which he used to discover how white light disperses into many colours!

From this discovery using a prism he made a 'Theory of Light' which states that when light refracts that the colours that are visible are made from the white light itself rather than the object they are visible on.

**Dispersion by a prism**  
**Alfredo Louro © 2008**

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# Newton's Telescope



Photograph © Andrew Dunn,  
5 November 2004

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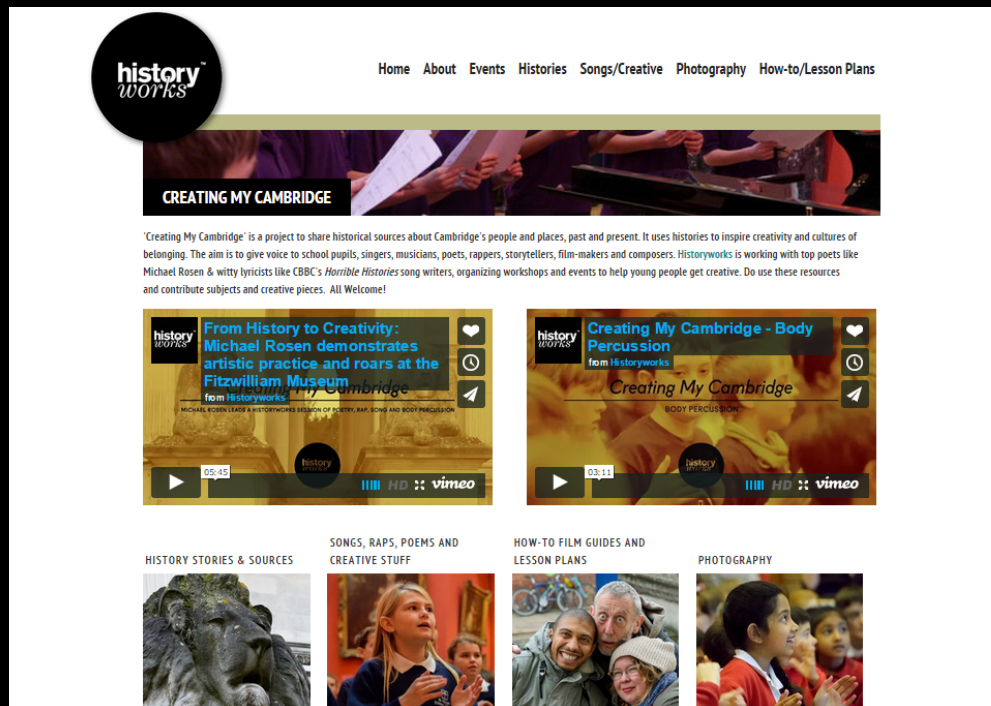
**FACTOID!**  
Newton telescope was 10  
times smaller than the  
telescopes of the time and  
was much more accurate.

This picture shows a replica of it  
and can be found in the Whipple  
Museum in Cambridge.

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# Web Resources available at:

<http://www.creatingmycambridge.com/history-stories/newtons-apple-tree/>



The screenshot shows the 'historyworks' website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: Home, About, Events, Histories, Songs/Creative, Photography, and How-to/Lesson Plans. The main header features the 'historyworks' logo and a large image of children singing into microphones, with the text 'CREATING MY CAMBRIDGE' overlaid. Below this, a paragraph describes the project: 'Creating My Cambridge' is a project to share historical sources about Cambridge's people and places, past and present. It uses histories to inspire creativity and cultures of belonging. The aim is to give voice to school pupils, singers, musicians, poets, rappers, storytellers, film-makers and composers. Historyworks is working with top poets like Michael Rosen & witty lyricists like CBBC's *Horrible Histories* song writers, organizing workshops and events to help young people get creative. Do use these resources and contribute subjects and creative pieces. All Welcome!

Below the text are two video thumbnails. The first is titled 'From History to Creativity: Michael Rosen demonstrates artistic practice and roars at the Fitzwilliam Museum' and has a duration of 05:45. The second is titled 'Creating My Cambridge - Body Percussion' and has a duration of 03:11. Both videos are hosted on Vimeo.

At the bottom, there are four categories with corresponding images: 'HISTORY STORIES & SOURCES' (a stone lion), 'SONGS, RAPS, POEMS AND CREATIVE STUFF' (a girl singing), 'HOW-TO FILM GUIDES AND LESSON PLANS' (a group of people), and 'PHOTOGRAPHY' (a group of children).

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For further information visit:

## Information and Videos

- BBC iWonder- Isaac Newton: The Man Who Discovered Gravity

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/timelines/zwwgcdm>

- Isaac Newton Institute:

<http://www.newton.ac.uk/about/isaac-newton>