

Name: _____

Tulip Names

Tulips have wonderfully unique names.

What do Shakespeare, Einstein, Barbra Streisand and astronaut Neil Armstrong have in common? They all have a tulip named after them.

So do some cities-like Leningrad, New York, Toronto and Pasadena. Place names of other sorts figure prominently too: you can find tulips called 'Mount Everest' and 'Empire State Building'. Then there are storybook characters, such as 'Pinocchio' and 'Mickey Mouse.'

Tulips wind up with their colorful-and sometimes puzzling-names in a couple of ways. Bulb growers may decide that a person, place, thing or event has a special meaning for them, and will baptize a new tulip accordingly. Or requests may be sent to the International Flower Bulb Center in Holland, asking growers to name an upcoming addition to the tulip roster after someone or something in a certain country. Some requests come via embassies, on behalf of governments, while others originate with private individuals.

Whatever their source, being immortalized in the form of a tulip is an honor, accorded to only a few. Whoever or whatever receives this honor, virtually every new tulip variety is developed in the same way. All of them start out in Holland, where private growers use a painstaking process called hybridizing. This involves mixing together the pollen from two different parent tulips-each with desirable elements of form, color and fragrance-to produce a different flower. Sometimes this crossbreeding has marvelous results; more often, it doesn't. New tulip hybrids are never overnight sensations. Even if a crossing is successful, it takes five years to grow a new tulip bulb from seed, and many more years to get that bulb into production.

(Excerpt from - Tulips by Sonia Day Key Porter Books, 2002)

Charles Darwin (1809-1882), best known for his work *Origin of the Species* was the pioneering naturalist who lent his name to the Darwin and Darwin-Hybrid tulips groups.

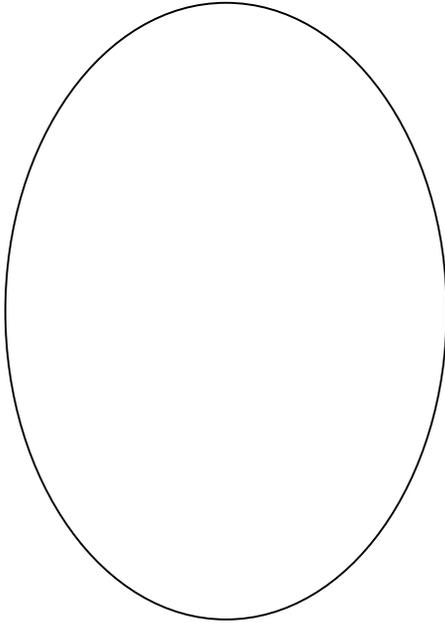
Some interesting individual tulip names include:

Lord Stanley, Elizabeth Arden, Garden Party, Smiling Queen, Queen of the Night, Flaming Parrot, Angeliqne, Tender Beauty, Apricot Beauty

Using the tulip types sheet, design a tulip. Be sure that the tulip fits into a category based on the petal shape and then you decide the colours and the name. The bookmarks would make a wonderful Mother's Day. When the bookmark is complete, laminate it.

Tulip Variety:

Name of Tulip:



Height:

Flowering Time:

Reason for Name: