

ORIGIN



When German settlers arrived in the 1700s, they brought a tradition known as Candlemas Day, which has an early origin in the pagan celebration of Imbolc



It came at the mid-point between the Winter Solstice and the Spring Equinox. Superstition held that if the weather was fair, the second half of Winter would be stormy and cold.





ORIGIN

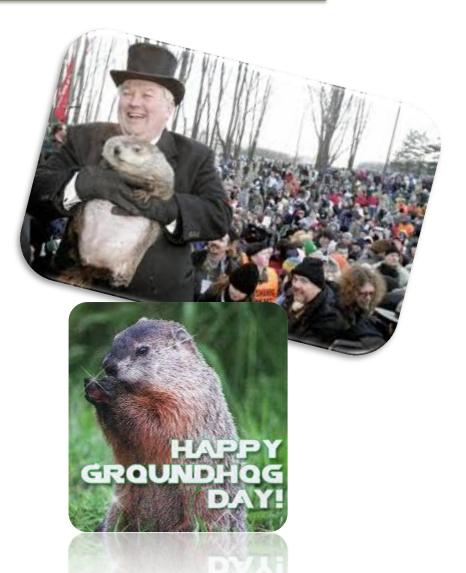
The day's weather continued to be important. If the sun came out on February 2, halfway between Winter and Spring, it meant six more weeks of wintry weather.



OFFICIAL CELEBRATION



Pennsylvania's official celebration of Groundhog Day began on February 2nd, 1886 with a proclamation in The Punxsutawney Spirit by the newspaper's editor, Clymer Freas: "Today is groundhog day and up to the time of going to press the beast has not seen its shadow."



THE NAME



The groundhog was given the name "Punxsutawney Phil and the Weather Prophet.

Thus, his hometown is called the "Weather Capital of the World."

The refrain says: "no shadow - early Spring".

