

GENTLE.NEWS

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*"I think... if it is true that there are as many minds as there are heads, then
there are as many kinds of love as there are hearts."*

— Leo Tolstoy,

NASA Telescope to Study Stars at Galaxy's Heart

NASA is getting ready to look deep into space. They will use a special telescope called the Roman Space Telescope.

The telescope will study the center of our galaxy, the Milky Way. This area has many stars packed close together. There is also a giant black hole at the very center.

The telescope will take pictures every 12 minutes. It will watch the same spots for many days. Scientists hope to find new planets and stars.

This will be the best view ever of the galaxy's center. The telescope will work for five years. It will help us learn about space objects we have never seen before.

The mission will answer many questions about our galaxy. Scientists from around the world are excited about this project.

The telescope will focus on six different areas. One area points right at the galaxy's center. The other five areas are nearby.

This exciting space mission will help us understand our place in the universe better.

History & Heritage

Moon Rocks Help Scientists Learn About Earth's Water

Scientists at NASA made an exciting discovery about Earth's water. They studied old moon rocks brought back by astronauts long ago.

The scientists wanted to know where Earth's water came from. Many thought it came from space rocks that hit Earth long ago.

The moon keeps a good record of what happened in space. Earth changes too much over time. But the moon stays the same.

The scientists used a new way to study moon dust. They looked at tiny pieces called oxygen isotopes. These are like fingerprints that don't change.

What they found was surprising. The space rocks could only bring a small amount of Earth's water. Most of our water must have come from somewhere else.

This helps us understand how our planet got its oceans and rivers. The moon rocks are like a history book. They tell us stories about what happened billions of years ago.

The research helps scientists learn more about how Earth became the water-rich planet we know today.

Beautiful Winter Snow Covers Michigan Lakes

A lovely winter scene appeared over Michigan's Great Lakes in January. NASA took pictures from space showing fresh white snow and ice.

A winter storm brought nearly a foot of fluffy snow to western Michigan. Some areas got even more snow - up to 14 inches! The snow created a beautiful white blanket across the land.

This happens every winter around the Great Lakes. When cold air moves over the warmer lake water, it picks up moisture. This creates clouds that drop snow on nearby areas.

Lake Erie changed quickly during January. At first, only 2 percent of the lake was frozen. Then cold air arrived and froze 85 percent of the lake in just days.

The satellite pictures show how winter transforms the landscape. The white snow and ice create a peaceful winter wonderland across Michigan and the Great Lakes region.

Winter brings its own special beauty to this part of the country each year.

Space Telescope Back to Work Finding New Planets

NASA's special space telescope called TESS is working well again. TESS looks for new planets around distant stars.

The telescope had some trouble in January. Its solar panels didn't turn the right way to catch sunlight. This made the batteries run low. The telescope went into safe mode to protect itself.

NASA's team fixed the problem quickly. TESS went back to work after just three days. It was watching a comet when the trouble started. It finished watching the comet when it got better.

TESS has been working since 2018. It looks at almost the whole sky. It has found many new planets far from Earth. These planets circle other stars like Earth circles our Sun.

The telescope sometimes needs repairs. But NASA's smart team always gets it working again. TESS keeps making new discoveries about space.

All the pictures and information from TESS are free for everyone to see online.

Meet John Nimmo: Water Scientist for 43 Years

John Nimmo has worked as a water scientist for 43 years. He spent 38 years as a regular employee. Now he works as an emeritus scientist for 5 more years.

John studies how water moves through soil and rocks. His work helps protect drinking water and nature. He also studies how weather changes affect water supplies.

For many years, John did experiments in labs and outdoors. He wrote reports about his findings. Now that he is older, he focuses more on writing and sharing his knowledge.

John loves his job because he can study important problems. He enjoys working with many different types of scientists. His favorite part is discovering new things about water.

"I still love what happens when I see new results for the first time," John says. Even after so many years, he still gets excited about learning new things.

John's long career shows how scientists can keep contributing as they get older. His experience helps train younger scientists too.

Activity Time - Word Search

Find the words below in the puzzle. Words go across or down only.

Words to Find:

SPACE

EARTH

WATER

STARS

LAKES

MOON

SNOW

