

# GENTLE.NEWS

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*"The more I see, the less I know for sure."*

— John Lennon

### **Scientists Complete 25 Years of Amazing Atom Research**

A special science machine has finished its work after 25 years. The machine helped scientists learn amazing things about tiny atoms.

The machine is called RHIC. It sits at a science lab in New York. For 25 years, RHIC crashed tiny pieces of atoms together. The crashes happened almost as fast as light travels.

Scientists watched what happened when the atoms crashed. They learned new things about what everything is made of. They discovered secrets about the smallest parts of our world.

Thousands of smart people worked with this machine. They came from all over America and the world. Together, they made many exciting discoveries.

The machine also helped create new tools and computers. These inventions will help other scientists in the future. The final experiment ended on a Friday morning in February. Scientists are happy about all they learned.

### Scientists Create Metal Tubes That Never Sink

Scientists have made a wonderful discovery. They created metal tubes that cannot sink in water. This amazing invention could help make safer ships in the future.

The smart team works at the University of Rochester. They found a special way to treat regular aluminum tubes. The process makes tiny pits on the inside of the metal. These tiny holes help keep water out.

When the treated tube goes into water, something magical happens. Air gets trapped inside the tube like a bubble. This air bubble keeps the tube floating on top of the water. It works like how some spiders stay underwater by trapping air around them.

The best part is that these tubes keep floating even when damaged. They stay on top of the water no matter what happens to them. The scientists added a special divider in the middle to make them even stronger.

This discovery could help make ships that never sink. It might also help create floating platforms for clean energy. The scientists are very excited about all the ways this could help people stay safe on water.

### Delaware River Gets Big Grant for Nature

The Delaware River just got some wonderful news. The government gave \$12.5 million to help protect this special river and the animals that live there.

This money will help 30 different groups work on nature projects. They will plant trees, clean up water, and make safe places for fish and birds to live. The groups getting the money will add their own funds too. That brings the total to almost \$30 million for nature!

The projects will do many good things. They will open 4,000 acres of land for people to visit and enjoy. Workers will fix up 11,000 acres of forest land. They will also restore wetlands that help prevent floods.

The Delaware River flows through four states. It gives clean drinking water to millions of people. Hundreds of types of fish and animals call it home. Even though many people live nearby, half the area is still covered in beautiful forests.

This river is very special. It has 400 miles marked as a National Wild and Scenic River. That means it stays natural and wild. People can still visit to fish, boat, and enjoy nature. Now it will be even better protected for years to come.

### **Amazing Fungi Can Eat Burned Wood After Fires**

Scientists have discovered something wonderful about tiny fungi. These special living things can eat charcoal left behind by wildfires.

Most plants and animals run away from fires. But some fungi actually love what happens after fires burn out. They feast on the black, burned wood that gets left behind.

Researchers at the University of California studied these amazing fungi for five years. They collected samples from seven different fire sites across California. Then they looked closely at the fungi's genes to learn their secrets.

The scientists found that these fungi have three clever ways to eat charcoal. Some make extra copies of special genes, like using a copy machine. Others mix their genes together when they mate. One type even borrowed helpful genes from other fungi.

The most surprising discovery was how fast these fungi can change and grow. They turn the burned remains into food for themselves. This helps forests start growing again after fires damage the land.

### **Welders Help Build Rockets for Space Travel**

Welders have an exciting job building things that go to space. They use special tools to join pieces of metal together with heat.

At NASA, welders help build rockets and spacecraft. They work on the parts that will carry astronauts to the moon. Welders also build launch pads and fuel tanks. Their careful work makes space travel possible.

There are many ways to weld metal. Some welders use electricity to melt metals together. Others use special gases to keep the metal clean. Laser welding can make tiny, perfect joints. Sound waves can even be used to join metal pieces.

People who want to become welders can go to community college for two years. They can also attend trade schools to learn this skill. Welders use their hands and minds to solve problems every day.

These skilled workers take pride in their craft. When astronauts blast off to space, welders know they helped make the journey happen. It feels good to build something that reaches for the stars.

# Activity Time - Word Search

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

**Words to Find:**

SCIENCE

MACHINE

WATER

METAL

RIVER

SPACE

YEARS

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| F | M | I | Q | Q | L | C | K | K | Z | B |
| C | F | J | I | J | J | J | N | I | M | Q |
| Y | W | A | T | E | R | L | C | Z | E | W |
| F | L | U | F | C | Q | Z | I | U | T | Y |
| F | M | S | Q | N | B | F | Q | A | A | Z |
| X | A | S | R | B | J | K | I | T | L | R |
| C | C | P | I | J | S | W | W | B | A | C |
| B | H | A | V | C | I | C | C | Y | Q | M |
| U | I | C | E | G | Y | E | A | R | S | E |
| F | N | E | R | S | C | I | E | N | C | E |
| Q | E | L | I | B | E | B | R | Z | O | W |