

# GENTLE.NEWS

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## In Today's Edition

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*"A book, too, can be a star, a living fire to lighten the darkness, leading  
out into the expanding universe."*

— Madeleine L'Engle

### Space Station Gets Fresh Supplies From Earth

A special space truck just delivered goodies to astronauts living in space. The truck carried over 11,000 pounds of food and supplies to the space station.

The space truck is called Cygnus. It's bigger than the old trucks. This means it can carry more things for the astronauts. The space station flies 257 miles above Earth.

Astronauts used a robotic arm to catch the truck. The arm is called Canadarm2. It gently grabbed the truck and attached it to the space station. The astronauts can now unload all the supplies.

This was the 24th trip this company made to the space station. They have been helping NASA send supplies to astronauts for many years. The truck will stay attached until October.

Another supply trip is planned for April. A rocket will launch from Florida to send more food and equipment. The astronauts always look forward to getting fresh supplies from home.

### Scientists Make DNA Work Like Computer Memory

Scientists have found a amazing new way to store information. They are using DNA to save digital files like photos and videos.

DNA is the special code that makes up all living things. It uses four letters: A, C, G, and T. Scientists can turn computer data into these same letters.

This method works very well. DNA can hold huge amounts of information in a tiny space. All the world's data could fit in a shoebox! It also lasts for thousands of years when kept cool and dry.

The best part is what researchers at the University of Missouri discovered. They figured out how to erase and rewrite DNA storage. Before this, DNA storage was permanent like a book you could never change.

"DNA stores life's blueprint in a tiny, stable package," says Professor Andrew Gu. Now computers might use DNA memory that can be updated over and over again. This exciting discovery could change how we save information forever.

## Nature & Environment

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### Forest Partners Work Together to Help Trees

The Forest Service and a Native American tribe are working together in Oregon. They want to make the forests healthier and safer.

The Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe signed a special agreement in February. This partnership helps both groups take better care of the land. They share their knowledge about forests.

The tribe brings many years of wisdom about caring for nature. Their families have lived on this land for a very long time. They know the best ways to keep forests healthy.

Together, they have already created 37 miles of special areas that help stop wildfires. These areas protect homes and forest land. The work keeps people and animals safer.

The partners will work on 155,000 acres of forest land. That's a very large area with many trees. They plan to do more projects that help the forests grow strong. When forests are healthy, everyone benefits.

### Scientists Work to Protect Crops Around the World

Scientists at Mississippi State University received a special grant to help protect farms everywhere. They got \$850,000 to create a new system that watches for problems with crops.

The team is building something called AgSENT. This stands for Agricultural Security Early Notification and Threat Network. It sounds fancy, but it does something simple and important.

The system will watch the weather and air around farms. It will look for things that might hurt plants before they cause real damage. This early warning could help farmers save their crops.

Scientists from different schools are working together on this project. They come from Mississippi, Virginia, and New York. They also work with other smart people who study weather patterns.

This new tool could help feed people around the world. When farmers can protect their crops better, there is more food for everyone. The scientists hope their work will make farming safer and more successful.

## **Animals & Wildlife**

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### **Scientists Use Special Microphones to Help Whales**

Scientists have found a clever way to help whales in the ocean. They use special underwater microphones called SoundTraps.

These devices sit on the ocean floor for six months. They listen to all the sounds whales make as they swim by. Later, scientists bring them back up to study what they heard.

The North Atlantic right whale is very rare. Only about 380 of these gentle giants are left in the world. Every winter, they swim south to have their babies in warmer waters.

Scientists put the listening devices where the whales like to go. This helps them learn where the whales travel and when. The information helps people know how to share the ocean safely with whales.

The whale sounds tell scientists many things. They can learn which whales were in certain places. They can also discover new paths the whales take. This important work helps protect these amazing ocean animals for years to come.

## Activity Time - Word Search

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

### Words to Find:

LETTERS

STORAGE

PLANTS

SOUNDS

NATURE

SPACE

CROPS

