

GENTLE.NEWS

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"I lived in books more than I lived anywhere else."

— Neil Gaiman

Ocean Winds Keep West Coast Waters Healthy

Good news from the Pacific Ocean! Scientists have found that ocean winds helped keep West Coast waters healthy this year.

Special winds called upwelling brought cold water up from the deep ocean. This cold water was full of nutrients that sea life needs to grow. The nutrients acted like vitamins for ocean plants and animals.

Many sea creatures did very well this year. Baby salmon grew strong in the rich waters. Young rockfish and small fish called anchovies also thrived. Tiny shrimp-like animals called krill were found all along the coast. Krill are very important because many larger animals eat them.

Scientists use new tools to watch the ocean and help fishing boats. They can now predict what might happen in the waters. This helps people who fish make better choices.

The healthy ocean conditions helped many animals find plenty to eat. Seabirds, squid, and salmon all benefited from the abundant small fish and krill in the water.

Four Astronauts Prepare for Moon Adventure

Four brave astronauts are getting ready for an amazing trip around the Moon. Three are from America and one is from Canada. Their names are Reid, Victor, Christina, and Jeremy.

They will fly in a special spacecraft called Orion. The trip will take about ten days. They will circle around the Moon and then come back to Earth safely.

On their first day in space, the astronauts will have lots of work to do. They will check that everything on their spacecraft is working well. They can take off their bright orange space suits and put on regular clothes.

The astronauts will test important things like their water system and bathroom. They will make sure the air stays clean and fresh to breathe. They will also prepare their special space food.

This exciting mission will help scientists learn more about space travel. It brings us closer to the dream of people visiting the Moon again someday.

Animals & Wildlife

Forest Grows Into Home for Wildlife

A special forest in North Carolina is becoming a wonderful home for animals. The 120-acre pine forest started as farmland 15 years ago. Now tall trees provide shelter for many creatures.

A new landowner loves wildlife and wants to help animals thrive. He is working with wildlife experts to make the forest even better. They have a good plan to help birds and butterflies.

The main goal is helping bobwhite quail. These small birds need open spaces with grass and plants. The team will thin some trees to let more sunlight reach the ground. This helps plants grow.

They will also use controlled fires to keep the forest healthy. Fire helps new grass and flowers grow. Many animals like this type of habitat.

The forest will help monarch butterflies too. These beautiful orange and black butterflies need places to rest and feed. With care and planning, this forest will be home to many happy animals for years to come.

Technology & Innovation

Scientists Use Special Planes to Study Earth

Scientists are using airplanes and helicopters to learn more about the ground beneath us. The planes fly low over New Mexico to take special pictures of rocks and soil.

These flights use amazing technology to see things we cannot see from the ground. The pictures help scientists find important minerals hidden deep in the earth.

Two groups are working together on this project. The U.S. Geological Survey and New Mexico's geology team are sharing their knowledge and tools.

The information they gather will help us understand our planet better. They can find underground water and learn about natural resources that help our daily lives.

This work happens across the whole country. Scientists want to create better maps of what lies beneath our feet. The flights will continue through the fall season when weather allows.

Students Help Make Airplane Care Better

NASA picked eight student teams for a special contest. The students are working to make airplane care better and safer.

Airplanes need lots of care to keep flying safely. Right now, there are not enough trained workers to fix airplanes. The planes also need to work longer than before.

NASA asked students to think of new ways to help. The contest is called "Gateways to Blue Skies." Students sent in their best ideas with videos.

"Students will learn about airplane care and help change its future," said Steven Holz from NASA. He helps run the contest. The students show the kind of smart thinking that will help aviation.

The students want to make airplane care work better by 2035. Their ideas could help airplanes be safer and cost less to fix. NASA hopes these bright students will work in aviation someday.

Activity Time - Word Search

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

Words to Find:

PLANES

SALMON

FOREST

TREES

BIRDS

OCEAN

MOON

