

# GENTLE.NEWS

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## In Today's Edition

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Word Search Puzzle

*"I was within and without, simultaneously enchanted and repelled by the  
inexhaustible variety of life."*

— Fitzgerald F. Scott

### **Small Water Plants Bring Light to Mountain Towns**

Small streams in the mountains can make electricity for whole towns. The Dominican Republic has been doing this for 27 years.

These tiny power plants use flowing water to create light for homes. They work in places where big power lines cannot reach. Mountain communities built them together.

An American engineer named Jon Katz had this good idea in the 1990s. He wanted to help people in hard-to-reach places. The communities loved the plan and made it work.

Now 50 of these small water plants light up remote villages. Families can read at night and keep food fresh. Children can study after dark.

The project is called "Light from Water." It shows how neighbors working together can solve big problems. Other countries now copy this smart idea.

### **Scientist Wins Top Honor for Space Research**

A talented scientist has won a very special award. Mary Bishai works at a famous research center in New York. She studies tiny particles that fly through space.

The American Association for the Advancement of Science gave Mary this honor. This group picks only the best scientists each year. They choose people who make important discoveries.

Mary studies something called neutrinos. These are very small pieces of matter. They zoom through space faster than anything else. Scientists think they hold secrets about how our universe works.

Mary has been studying these space particles for many years. She uses special machines to track them. Her work helps other scientists learn new things too.

Mary says she loves her job. She wants to help young people get excited about science. She hopes more children will become scientists when they grow up.

### **New Bandage Helps Wounds Heal Better**

Scientists have created a special new bandage that helps cuts and scrapes heal faster. This smart bandage only releases medicine when it's really needed.

The bandage is made from a gel-like material that feels soft like Jell-O. Inside this gel, scientists put helpful medicine called antibiotics. These medicines fight off germs that can make wounds worse.

Here's what makes this bandage so clever. It can tell when bad germs are trying to grow in a wound. When harmful bacteria show up, the bandage starts to break down a little bit. This releases just the right amount of medicine to fight the germs.

But when no bad germs are around, the bandage stays whole. It keeps all the medicine safely locked inside. This means people only get antibiotics when they truly need them.

The scientists tested their new bandage and found great results. Wounds healed faster and stayed cleaner compared to regular bandages. This discovery could help many people recover more quickly from cuts and injuries.

### Amazing Journey Through Earth to Faraway Volcanoes

Have you ever wondered what lies on the exact opposite side of our planet? Scientists love to imagine fun adventures to answer this question.

Yellowstone Park sits in the western United States. It has beautiful hot springs and geysers that people love to visit. If you could dig straight through the center of Earth from Yellowstone, where would you come out?

The answer is amazing! You would pop up in the southern Indian Ocean. This spot is near some very old volcanic islands that formed 130 million years ago. A few small volcanoes there are still active today.

Scientists call the opposite point on Earth an "antipode." The distance straight through our planet is about 7,900 miles. That would be quite an adventure! The center of Earth is extremely hot - much hotter than any oven.

This fun idea reminds us how big and wonderful our planet is. Earth connects distant places in surprising ways that make us smile.

### **Whale Families Learning to Make New Friends**

Scientists are learning new things about special whales called Southern Resident killer whales. These whales live in very close family groups.

For many years, people thought these whale families stayed away from other whale groups. The whales seemed to like keeping to themselves. They lived mostly in one area near Washington state.

But now scientists have discovered something interesting. These whales are starting to spend time with other whale families. They are swimming to new places along the coast. In these new areas, they meet different whale groups.

The scientists think this might be good for the whales. When whale families meet other groups, they can learn new things. They might find new places to hunt for fish. Young whales from different groups might even become friends.

This discovery helps scientists understand whales better. It shows that even animals that seem shy can change over time. The whales are learning that making new friends might help their families grow stronger.

## Activity Time - Word Search

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

### Words to Find:

HEALING

JOURNEY

FAMILY

HONOR

WATER

LIGHT

WHALE

