

# GENTLE.NEWS

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*"Understanding is the first step to acceptance, and only with acceptance  
can there be recovery."*

— J.K. Rowling

## **Technology & Innovation**

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### **Scientists Create Smart Labs That Work Together**

Scientists at a research center have found an exciting new way to help labs work together. They created a special system called INTERSECT.

The team wanted to connect different labs and their equipment. This would let scientists share information easily. They hoped this would help researchers solve problems faster.

Rob Moore led this project with his team of researchers. They work at a special center that studies new science ideas. The team wanted to see if labs could talk to each other automatically.

Their system connects many different instruments across labs. Information can now flow freely between them. This helps scientists no matter what they are studying.

The project has grown into something even bigger. The team is now working on labs that can run themselves. These smart labs could help scientists make new discoveries faster than ever before.

### **NASA Creates Medicine From Water in Space**

NASA scientists have made an amazing discovery. They found a way to turn regular water into life-saving medicine while in space.

Astronauts sometimes get sick during their long trips. They might become dehydrated or get burns. When this happens, doctors give them special fluids through an IV tube. This helps them feel better quickly.

The problem is that IV fluids go bad after 16 months. Space trips can last three years or more. NASA needed a better solution for their astronauts.

Smart scientists in Cleveland built a special machine. It's called IVGEN Mini. This clever device takes drinking water and turns it into medical fluid. It removes tiny particles and adds the right amount of salt.

The machine is now on the space station. Astronauts will test it this spring and fall. If it works well, future space travelers will be much safer. They can make their own medicine whenever they need it.

### Shoppers Like Foods With Healthy Labels

Good news for people who want to eat better! A new study shows that shoppers choose healthier snacks when they see special labels.

The FDA recently updated what "healthy" means on food packages. They made new rules based on the latest nutrition science. The agency also created a special "FDA healthy" symbol for food containers.

Researchers wanted to see if these labels help people make good choices. They studied 267 shoppers at grocery stores near Boston. The shoppers looked at pictures of 15 different snack foods on tablets.

First, people saw the snacks without any special labels. Then they saw the same foods again. This time, the healthy snacks had either a basic healthy label or the new FDA symbol.

The results were encouraging! Shoppers picked more healthy snacks when they could see the labels. They were even willing to pay extra money for foods with the FDA symbol. This happened because people trust the government agency. One researcher said trust was very important. People felt confident buying foods approved by the FDA. This is similar to how shoppers feel about organic labels from the USDA. The study shows that clear, trusted labels can help families eat better. When people see official symbols, they feel good about their food choices.

### Scientists Create Helpful Tools for Everyone

Scientists at a research center in New Mexico have won special awards. They created three amazing tools that help people every day.

The first tool helps with solar panels. Solar panels use sunlight to make electricity for homes. But sometimes the shiny panels can create bright glare. This glare can bother airplane pilots and drivers. The scientists made a computer program to fix this problem. It helps people place solar panels in the best spots. Now tens of thousands of people use this helpful tool each year.

The second tool helps with space flights. It's called TAOS. This computer program helps plan the best paths for rockets and spacecraft. It makes space travel safer and better.

The third award was for helping New Mexico become a leader in quantum science. Quantum science is a new type of technology that could change how computers work. The scientists are helping build this exciting new field.

These awards show how smart scientists can create tools that make life better for everyone. Their hard work helps solve everyday problems in creative ways.

## Nature & Environment

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### Scientists Help Ocean Animals and Fish Thrive

Every day, ocean scientists work to help sea life. They care for fish, whales, and other ocean animals. They also protect the places where these animals live.

In Florida, scientists are fixing a special water area. They are bringing back underwater grass beds. They are also helping clams and other shellfish grow again. This work costs millions of dollars, but it helps the whole ocean.

Scientists use special underwater robots called gliders. These robots swim through the ocean like fish. They watch whales and dolphins. They also help fishermen know where to find fish safely.

Regular people help too! Fishermen put special tags on fish they catch. Then they let the fish swim away. Scientists use these tags to learn about fish. Anyone can help with this fun project.

One lake near the Great Lakes was very dirty. Scientists worked for many years to clean it up. Now fish and birds are coming back. The water is clean again.

## 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

SOLAR

WHALE

SPACE

LABEL

FISH

FOOD

