

# GENTLE.NEWS

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*"Oh well... I'd just been thinking, if you had died, you'd have been  
welcome to share my toilet."*

— J.K. Rowling

## **Technology & Innovation**

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### **Scientists Help Track Fish for Better Fishing**

Scientists are working with two southern states to count fish better. Alabama and Mississippi now have special surveys that help track fishing.

These surveys count how many fish people catch. They also count how many fishing trips people take. This helps scientists understand fish populations better.

The surveys use two methods to gather information. Workers talk to people fishing along the shore. They also call people with fishing licenses on the phone.

Scientists reviewed the surveys carefully. They found both surveys work very well. The surveys can now get special funding to continue their important work.

This partnership helps fishermen and fish alike. Better counting means healthier fish populations for the future. Families can keep enjoying fishing trips together. The work started after Louisiana created a similar program. Now three states work together to protect fish. Scientists praise everyone who helped make this happen.

### **NASA Offers Fun Summer Activities for Young People**

NASA has exciting summer programs for students this year. These activities help young people learn about space and science.

The space agency created the Stardance Challenge for teens. Students ages 13 to 18 can join this online contest. They can work with real NASA data from space missions. Kids can build apps, models, or other cool projects.

NASA works with a group called Hack Club for this program. The challenge runs from June through September. Students get help from experts and can win prizes. They also learn about real space missions like Artemis.

NASA employs many different types of workers. The agency needs more than just astronauts and scientists. Engineers, computer experts, and many other professionals work there too.

Summer is a great time to explore NASA careers. The space agency offers online events where students can meet NASA workers. These programs help young people discover how they might work in space science someday.

### Scientists Study Yellowstone's Amazing Hot Springs

Scientists are learning new things about Yellowstone's famous hot springs. The park has some of the world's most amazing geysers and bubbling pools.

Researchers want to understand how these natural wonders work. They study the water in the hot springs. The chemicals in the water tell a story about what happens deep underground.

Yellowstone sits on top of ancient volcanic rock. Heat from far below warms the water. This creates the beautiful geysers and colorful pools that visitors love to see.

Scientists use special tools to listen to the sounds these features make. They also test the water to learn about temperature changes. This helps them understand how geysers work.

The research helps keep visitors safe. It also teaches us about one of nature's most spectacular shows. Yellowstone remains a place of wonder and scientific discovery.

### Scientists and Fishermen Work Together

Scientists and fishermen are joining forces to help ocean life. They met at a special gathering on Long Island in New York.

More than 150 people came to this friendly meeting. About 30 were fishermen who work on the water every day. This was the biggest group they ever had.

The goal is simple but important. Scientists want to learn from fishermen. Fishermen want to share what they know about the ocean. Together, they can take better care of fish and sea life.

Anna Mercer helped organize the event. She says people don't always agree at first. But they talk things through and find good solutions together. The meetings help everyone understand each other better.

Cornell University also helped make the gathering special. They organized boat tours and friendly meals. Scott from Cornell says he feels hopeful after every meeting. The teamwork gives him new energy for his ocean research work.

## **Animals & Wildlife**

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### **Right Whales Have Best Baby Year Since 2009**

Great news from the ocean! North Atlantic right whales had their best baby year in over 15 years.

These amazing whales travel over 1,000 miles each winter. They swim from cold northern waters to warm southern seas. The mothers go there to have their babies in the shallow, safe waters.

This past season, 23 baby whales were born. This is the most babies since 2009! Even better, 20 of the mothers had babies before. Many of these experienced moms are having babies more often now. This shows the whale families are getting healthier.

People who live near the coast help count the whales. They call researchers when they spot whales swimming by. Scientists also fly planes and use boats to count them. Together, they saw about 500 whale sightings during the season.

The researchers are very excited about these numbers. They counted 129 different whales, including moms, dads, teenagers, and new babies. This means more than a quarter of all right whales came south to have babies. When this many whales gather together, it shows the whale families are doing much better than before.

## Activity Time - Word Search

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

### Words to Find:

SPRINGS

SUMMER

SURVEY

WATER

PHONE

TEAM

FISH

