

# GENTLE.NEWS

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*"To say goodbye is to die a little."*

— Raymond Chandler

### **Mars Rover Finds Clues About Ancient Water**

NASA's Curiosity rover has made an exciting discovery on Mars. The robot explorer found special rocks that tell us about water from long ago.

The rover studied iron rocks called hematite in a big crater on Mars. These rocks form in different ways depending on how much water is around. Scientists looked at 20 rock samples from different heights in the crater.

What they found was amazing. The deeper rocks showed signs that warm water stayed there for millions of years. This water could have been a good place for tiny life forms to live.

The crater walls are like a history book. Each layer tells us about a different time on Mars. The bottom layers are the oldest and show when Mars had more water.

This discovery helps us understand how Mars changed over time. Long ago, Mars may have been much warmer and wetter than it is today. The rover continues to explore and teach us new things about our neighbor planet.

### Phone App Helps Students Feel Better

A new phone app is helping college students feel happier and less worried. Scientists studied over 6,000 students who used the app. The results were very good.

The app teaches students how to think in more positive ways. It also sends helpful text messages. Real coaches read what students write and send back caring advice.

Students who used the app felt much better than those who didn't. They had less sadness and worry. The good feelings lasted for two whole years after using the app.

The app uses a method called cognitive behavioral therapy. This helps people notice negative thoughts and change them to positive ones. Students do fun activities on their phones to practice these skills.

Doctors are excited about this discovery. Many students don't visit counselors in person. But they will use apps on their phones. This makes it easier for young people to get help when they need it.

## **Animals & Wildlife**

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### **Animals Change Behavior When People Are Near**

Scientists have made an exciting discovery about animals in the wild. They found that animals change how they act when people are around.

A team from Yale University spent six years studying this. They worked with over 50 groups from around the world. The scientists used special GPS devices to follow animals.

They watched 37 different types of animals across America. Some were birds like hawks, ducks, and cranes. Others were mammals like deer, wolves, and raccoons. Even big cats were part of the study.

The results were surprising. Animals don't just respond to buildings and roads. They also notice when humans are simply walking nearby. Even small changes in where people go can affect how animals behave.

This discovery helps us understand animals better. Scientists say we should think about where people spend time when we try to protect wildlife. It's not just about saving animal homes. It's also about being mindful of our presence around wild creatures.

## **Technology & Innovation**

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### **Ocean Jobs Growing Strong Across America**

Great news from our nation's waters! A new study shows that ocean jobs are growing fast across America.

From 2021 to 2024, more than 500,000 new ocean jobs were created. That's wonderful news for workers and families. Pay in these jobs also went up by 32 percent during this time.

Right now, about 3.7 million Americans work in ocean-related jobs. The biggest group works in tourism and recreation. These workers help visitors enjoy beaches, boats, and ocean fun. About 2.6 million people have these tourism jobs.

Other ocean workers build ships and boats. Some work on docks loading cargo ships. Others help build things along the coast. All these jobs help keep our ocean economy strong.

Florida, California, and New York have the most ocean workers. But ocean jobs exist in many states. People can work with the ocean and Great Lakes in lots of different ways. Scientists collected this information to help us understand how important our waters are. The ocean gives us jobs, fun, and so much more.

## Nature & Environment

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### Good News for America's Forests and Wildlife

The U.S. Forest Service has wonderful news to share. They are giving \$80 million to save forests across America. This money will protect over 34,000 acres of beautiful woodland.

These forests belong to private families who care for the land. The new program helps these families keep their forests healthy. The trees will continue to grow and provide homes for wildlife.

Most of these special forests will stay open to the public. People can visit to hike, camp, and enjoy nature. Families can spend peaceful time together outdoors.

The protected forests also help keep our water clean. They provide wood for building homes and furniture. Many small towns depend on these forests for jobs and community life.

Some of the saved forests are in Idaho and Oregon. These areas help prevent dangerous wildfires from spreading. Healthy forests protect nearby towns and keep families safe.

## Activity Time - Word Search

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

### Words to Find:

ANIMALS

FOREST

ROCKS

TREES

BIRDS

BOATS

MARS

