

GENTLE.NEWS

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"Look after my heart - I've left it with you."

— Stephenie Meyer

Technology & Innovation

Scientists Help Company Make Strong New Materials

A special partnership is creating exciting new materials. Scientists at Oak Ridge National Laboratory worked with ACP Technologies for many years.

Together, they developed amazing carbon materials. These materials are very strong but also lightweight. They can be used to make better cars, planes, and spacecraft.

The scientists helped turn lab ideas into real products. They built a test factory in Kentucky. This factory can make 75 pounds of material every hour.

Carbon fiber is one of these special materials. It makes things stronger without adding weight. This helps build better vehicles that use less fuel.

The company plans to build an even bigger factory soon. It will open in 2029. This will help America make more of these important materials at home. The partnership shows how scientists and companies can work together. They turn good ideas into products that help everyone.

Smart Fire Planning Helps Nature in Australia

Scientists use space cameras to watch fires in Australia. These fires are not accidents. Smart land managers plan them carefully.

The fires happen in Northern Australia each May and June. From space, the fires look like big clouds of smoke. NASA satellites take pictures of the smoke and flames.

These planned fires help the land stay healthy. Workers light small fires in the morning. The smoke grows bigger during the day as winds blow it around.

The fires burn grass and small plants in open areas. This is good for the land. It helps prevent bigger, dangerous fires later. The plants in this area are used to fire and grow back well.

Scientists can tell these are planned fires by when and where they happen. The fires help take care of the natural areas. This smart planning protects both people and wildlife.

Small Fish Called Capelin Help Scientists Study Ocean Health

Scientists study tiny fish called capelin to learn about ocean health. These small silver fish are like canaries in coal mines. They warn us when things change in the sea.

Capelin are very important to ocean life. Big fish like salmon eat them. Whales, seals, and seabirds also need capelin for food. The little fish are full of healthy fats that give animals energy.

Scientists in Alaska watched capelin for twenty years. They saw what happened when ocean water got warmer than usual. The warm water made fewer capelin available for other animals to eat.

Dr. Rob Suryan studies these fish. He says capelin are one of four key types of small fish in Alaska waters. When they swim together, they form huge groups. This makes it easier for bigger animals to find and catch them.

The research helps scientists understand how ocean changes affect all sea life. Healthy capelin populations mean a healthy ocean ecosystem.

Animals & Wildlife

Special White Bison Baby Born in Iowa

A very special baby bison was born in Iowa this spring. The little calf is white, which is extremely rare. Only one in a million bison babies are born white.

The baby lives at Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge. This is a safe place where wild animals can live and grow. The refuge takes care of 82 bison in total. Thirteen babies were born this year.

Long ago, millions of bison lived across America. They roamed the tall grasslands freely. Today, places like Neal Smith help protect these amazing animals.

The white bison brings joy to the workers at the refuge. Visitors love seeing this special baby too. The refuge near Des Moines welcomes people who want to see the bison herd.

Only five wildlife refuges in America have bison herds. Neal Smith has cared for bison since the 1990s. The refuge helps bring back Iowa's beautiful tall grass prairie too.

Man Grows Delicious Oysters by the Sea

Brenden Doyle loves the ocean. He grew up fishing near the coast of Massachusetts. His family has always worked on the water.

After serving in the Navy, Brenden worked with computers. But he missed being on the water. He wanted to return to the sea.

In 2018, Brenden bought land near the water. He started his own oyster farm called The Great Marsh Shellfish Company. His farm sits in a beautiful salt marsh.

The marsh has clean, salty water that is perfect for oysters. The oysters taste sweet and fresh. They get their special flavor from the marsh waters and sea grass.

Brenden and his team take great care of their oysters. They move each oyster by hand as it grows. This year they will sort over one million oysters. It is hard work, but Brenden loves what he does.

Activity Time - Word Search

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

Words to Find:

PRAIRIE

STRONG

WHALE

OCEAN

GRASS

SMOKE

BISON

