

# GENTLE.NEWS

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*"If you ever find yourself in the wrong story, leave."*

— Mo Willems

### **Moon Astronauts Help Scientists Learn About Space Travel**

Four brave astronauts recently returned from an amazing trip around the Moon. Now they are helping scientists learn important things about space travel.

The astronauts are Reid Wiseman, Victor Glover, Christina Koch, and Jeremy Hansen. They flew around the Moon and came back safely to Earth in April.

Scientists are studying how the astronauts' bodies feel after being in space. They want to know how quickly people can work after landing on the Moon or Mars. This will help future space explorers.

The astronauts walked on special treadmills while wearing space suits. They did tests before and after their Moon trip. This helps scientists understand how our bodies change in space.

All this research will help NASA build a base on the Moon someday. It will make space travel safer for everyone who wants to explore beyond Earth.

## **Animals & Wildlife**

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### **Fishermen Help Save Fish Homes in Water**

Fishermen across America are helping save special places where fish live and grow. These caring people work with scientists to make underwater homes better for fish.

In the Chesapeake Bay, workers have built new oyster reefs. These underwater neighborhoods give fish safe places to hide and find food. The project has created three square miles of healthy reef homes. Local fishermen help count the fish that move into these new reefs.

The fishermen also join a fun fishing contest called Rod and Reef Slam. In this special contest, catching many different types of fish wins prizes. The healthier the reefs, the more types of fish live there.

In Alaska, other groups are removing harmful plants from lakes and rivers. These bad plants grow too fast and take over fish homes. Removing them helps native fish have better places to live.

These projects show how fishermen and scientists work together. They both love fish and want to protect underwater homes for years to come.

## Nature & Environment

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### **New Fish Ladder Helps Eels Swim Home**

Scientists built a special ladder to help eels swim upstream in Maryland. The ladder goes around a dam on Deer Creek.

American eels are important fish that live along the East Coast. They swim from the ocean up rivers to find homes. But dams can block their path.

The Eden Mill Dam was stopping many eels from reaching good places to live. Scientists from different groups worked together to solve this problem.

They designed a new pathway called an eelway. Now young eels can safely swim around the dam. This helps them reach the upstream areas they need.

The project will help eel numbers grow again. It also makes the whole river system healthier for all the animals that live there.

## **Technology & Innovation**

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### **Students Learn Science Through Fun Summer Program**

A special summer program helps young people fall in love with science and technology. The program is called HMTech. It has been running for almost 40 years.

Scientists and engineers volunteer their time to teach students. They want to help kids who might not see many people like them in science fields. The program gives everyone a chance to try new things.

This summer, 120 students will join the fun. They range from sixth grade to high school age. The program runs for three weekends in June.

Students get to do many exciting activities. They build robots from scratch. They learn about the human body and explore outer space. They even grow plants in gardens and learn about cooking science.

One person who took the program as a child now works as a computer expert. He says the program helped shape his whole career. The hands-on activities opened doors he never imagined possible.

### **NASA Brings Space Science to Soccer Fans**

NASA is planning something special for soccer fans. When the FIFA World Cup comes to America in 2026, NASA will have a fun exhibit in Houston.

The space agency will set up displays at the FIFA Fan Festival. Visitors can learn about space research and missions. They can discover how astronauts work on the International Space Station. The exhibit will be free for everyone to enjoy.

Astronauts who traveled around the Moon will visit too. They will share stories about their amazing journey. These brave explorers will talk to soccer fans before a big match.

NASA has been studying soccer balls in space for years. Scientists sent soccer balls to the space station. They wanted to see how the balls move without gravity. This research helps make better soccer balls here on Earth.

The space station has been helping us for over 25 years. Astronauts do experiments that improve life for everyone. From space research to soccer fields, NASA discoveries help us all.

## 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

SPACE

WATER

SPACE

EELS

FISH

MOON

