

GENTLE.NEWS

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*"We must be willing to let go of the life we planned so as to have the life
that is waiting for us."*

— Joseph Campbell

NASA Opens Powerful New Wind Tunnel for Future Flight

NASA has opened a brand new wind tunnel in Virginia. It is called the Flight Dynamics Research Facility. It is located at NASA's Langley Research Center in Hampton.

This is NASA's first major new wind tunnel in over 40 years. That is a very big deal for American science. Scientists are excited to put it to work right away.

The tunnel will help test airplanes, rockets, and spacecraft. Engineers can use it to check if new designs are safe and work well. They can test small models of planes and even space capsules inside it.

Wind tunnels blow strong air over model vehicles. This shows how a real aircraft would fly. It helps scientists find and fix problems before a full-size craft is ever built.

NASA's leader said this facility will help America stay the world's top country in air and space travel. Universities, businesses, and government teams will all use it together. Big discoveries about the future of flight could come from this place for many years.

Rare Frogs Get a New Home in Mississippi

A very special frog is making a comeback. Nearly 500 dusky gopher frogs were released into ponds in Mississippi in June 2026. This is wonderful news for one of America's rarest frogs.

The dusky gopher frog is a tiny, endangered amphibian. For many years, only one group of these frogs existed in the wild. They lived in just one pond in a national forest. Scientists and nature lovers worried the frog might disappear forever.

Two caring landowners helped change that story. Mr. and Mrs. Jim Currie opened their private property, called Woodland Cottage, to help the frogs. They have worked with wildlife experts for over 20 years to make their land a safe place for animals.

The Curries partnered with several conservation groups. Together, they restored ponds and natural habitats on the property. These efforts created a perfect new home for the little frogs to grow and thrive.

This release is a big step forward for the dusky gopher frog. It shows what is possible when people work together to protect nature. Thanks to kind landowners and dedicated scientists, this rare frog now has a much brighter future.

Gulf Waters Thriving After 50 Years of Teamwork

The Gulf of America is home to some of the best fishing in the whole country. From Florida to Texas, its warm waters are full of life. Lobster, shrimp, red snapper, and grouper are just a few of the wonderful creatures that live there.

For 50 years, fishermen and government workers have worked together to keep these waters healthy. That teamwork has made a real difference. The Gulf now leads the nation in recreational fishing catches. It also supports a \$20 billion fishing economy.

Scientists and local experts share information to help fish populations stay strong. They track more than 200 types of coral and protect key ocean habitats. Their careful work helps ensure there are plenty of fish for future generations to enjoy.

State and federal agencies all play a part in this effort. They share responsibilities and work as a team. Together, they have successfully reduced overfishing and kept Gulf waters rich and productive.

It is a wonderful example of people coming together for a common good. The Gulf's sparkling waters continue to provide fresh, delicious seafood for families across America. That is something worth celebrating!

Young Students Help Save the Chesapeake Bay

Every summer, young people step up to help protect one of America's most treasured places. This year, four college students are working as paid interns at the Chesapeake Bay Office. They spend 12 weeks learning from experts and working on real projects.

Each intern has a mentor — a trusted expert who guides them all summer long. The students also meet with other young people working to protect the Bay. Together, they build skills and friendships that will last a lifetime.

One intern is Kate, a college student from Oregon. She grew up playing at the coast, swimming in rivers, and hiking in the mountains. Nature has always been her happy place. Now she is using that love to help the Bay.

Kate is studying oysters. Oysters are small but mighty! They clean the water and give fish and crabs a safe home. Kate is finding ways to show how valuable oyster reefs really are. Her work could help protect them for years to come.

These young students remind us that the Chesapeake Bay has bright champions looking after it. With caring hands and curious minds, they are helping keep this beautiful waterway healthy and full of life for all of us to enjoy.

America Opens Bold New Center for Better Building Materials

Scientists in America have opened an exciting new research center. It will help make cement and concrete much better. Cement and concrete are used to build roads, bridges, and homes all across the country.

The center is called ACCENT. It is based at Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee. Researchers there will test new materials and find smarter ways to build things. This is the first center of its kind in the United States.

One big goal is to use computers to collect and study information about concrete. Scientists will gather millions of facts about how concrete performs over many years. This will help builders choose the best and longest-lasting materials for any job.

ACCENT will also create America's first public database for concrete. Anyone can use it to look up reliable facts about building materials. This will help new ideas move from the lab into real buildings much more quickly.

The center brings together researchers and industry experts working as one team. Leaders say this teamwork will lead to stronger roads, safer bridges, and better homes for everyone. It is a wonderful step toward building a stronger America for the future.

Activity Time - Word Search

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

Words to Find:

HABITAT

CEMENT

ROCKET

BRIDGE

SHRIMP

CORAL

POND

