

GENTLE.NEWS

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*"A DEFINITION NOT FOUND IN THE DICTIONARY Not leaving: an act
of trust and love, often deciphered by children"*

— Markus Zusak

Young Students Help NASA Plan Life on the Moon

Young people are doing exciting work at NASA right now. They are helping plan humanity's future in space. These students are called interns. They work alongside real NASA scientists and engineers.

One intern is Macie Landon. She studies at Texas A&M University in Texas. Macie loves art, space, and video games. She never thought she could use art at NASA. Then she discovered she could!

Macie creates videos, 3D models, and graphics. Her work helps everyday people understand the Moon Base Program. NASA wants to build the first human outpost on the Moon. Macie helps tell that amazing story to the public.

She once showed NASA's Moon plans at a huge soccer festival in Houston. Thousands of visitors stopped to learn about lunar exploration. Macie said she had no idea NASA needed creative artists. Now she is inspired every single day by her work.

These young interns are the future of space exploration. They bring fresh ideas and big dreams to NASA. Watching the next generation take on real missions is truly wonderful. The stars may truly be within our reach.

Sand Dunes Are Nature's Shield Against Stormy Seas

Scientists have discovered something wonderful about sand dunes. These beautiful mounds of sand along our coastlines are natural protectors. They act like shields, blocking flood waters during big storms.

Researchers studied beaches in California to learn more. They looked at how dunes change when powerful storms arrive. Waves can reshape dunes and move large amounts of sand. This movement actually helps protect the land behind the beach.

Here is the exciting part. When waves hit the beach during a storm, sand shifts and settles into new shapes. These new shapes can slow down flooding. Nature finds its own way to protect the shore.

Scientists are also building special dunes on purpose. These are called nature-based solutions. They work like natural dunes but are carefully designed by engineers. Communities near the ocean can use them to stay safer.

The research helps planners build stronger, smarter coastlines. By understanding how sand moves, we can protect beaches for years to come. Nature and science are working together beautifully. Our coastlines have more strength than we ever knew.

Team Saves Trapped Humpback Whale in Monterey Bay

A humpback whale got a second chance at life this summer. A caring team of people worked together to set it free in Monterey Bay, California.

The whale had been tangled in fishing ropes for over a month. The ropes were wrapped tightly around its tail and had cut into its body. It needed help fast.

Whale watching boats spotted the whale in late May. Their captains and guides took photos and tracked the whale carefully. They shared everything with a rescue group called Marine Life Studies.

Those photos helped the rescue team make a plan. When the whale appeared near their offices on July 11, the team was ready. They moved quickly and freed the whale from the dangerous ropes. Founder Peggy Stap said, "We could not do it without them."

Many groups worked together to make this happen. Whale watching crews, marine scientists, and rescue teams from up and down the West Coast all helped. It was a true team effort. Thanks to their hard work and big hearts, this beautiful whale swam free.

New Program Turns Lab Inventions Into Helpful Products

Scientists at government research labs make amazing discoveries every year. But a great invention alone does not help people. It needs the right support to become a real product.

A new program called COMPASS is helping make that happen. It connects scientists with business founders and investors. Together, they work to bring new technologies to everyday life.

COMPASS stands for Commercialization Pathways for Accelerating Scientific Solutions. It is led by two major national labs. Those are SLAC in California and Sandia in New Mexico.

The program focuses on exciting areas like smart computers, better energy tools, and advanced manufacturing. Investors tell COMPASS what they need. Then scientists find inventions that match. This teamwork helps new products reach the world much faster than before.

Think of past breakthroughs like the MRI or the World Wide Web. Those inventions changed millions of lives for the better. COMPASS hopes to spark the next big discovery. It is a wonderful example of science and business working together to make life better for everyone.

New Scholarships Train Students to Keep Computers Safe

The United States government is helping young people learn important new skills. A program called CyberAICorps will give scholarships to college students across the country. These students will learn how to protect computers and digital systems from harm.

The program is run by the National Science Foundation. This group funds important education and research in America. They have chosen colleges and universities to take part. Schools from all over the country applied to join.

Students in the program will learn about two big topics. The first is cybersecurity, which means keeping computers safe. The second is artificial intelligence, which helps computers think and solve problems. Together, these skills are very important today.

Graduates will go on to protect hospitals, government offices, and other vital services. Their work will help keep everyone's personal information safe. These are some of the most needed jobs in the country right now.

Leaders at the Foundation are proud of this new effort. They say America needs many more trained experts in these fields. This program will help build a stronger, safer digital future for all Americans. It is a wonderful step forward for education.

Activity Time - Word Search

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

Words to Find:

STARTUP SCIENCE RESCUE WAVES
NASA ROPE DUNE

V	B	M	Y	J	V	J	D	N	T	B
V	D	S	H	V	M	N	A	S	A	D
X	U	T	Q	R	F	S	T	J	W	D
C	N	A	A	O	V	A	B	A	A	M
N	E	R	S	P	M	A	T	D	V	U
O	U	T	R	E	S	C	U	E	E	Z
E	B	U	X	D	E	H	B	G	S	O
R	D	P	F	U	O	S	W	Y	H	R
B	U	H	N	S	G	O	P	I	A	V
T	J	S	C	I	E	N	C	E	H	T
W	J	O	R	I	S	T	E	H	F	K