

GENTLE.NEWS

In Today's Edition

Animals & Wildlife

Team Rescues Humpback Whale Tangled in Rope

The World Today

Computers Learn to Recognize Faces Like Humans

Science & Discovery

Students Learn Nuclear Science Skills at Special Lab

Nature & Environment

A Tiny Boat Brings Trout to More Fishermen

Technology & Innovation

Teens Use NASA Tools to Study the Air Around Them

Activity Time

Word Search Puzzle

"Do not fear failure but rather fear not trying."

— Roy T. Bennett

Team Rescues Humpback Whale Tangled in Rope

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

The whale had been tangled in ropes for over a month. The ropes were wound tightly around its tail. This was very dangerous for the whale.

Whale watching boat crews spotted the whale in late May. They took photos and shared them with a rescue group called Marine Life Studies. Those photos helped the team plan how to help.

On July 11, the whale appeared near the rescue team's office. They moved quickly and got to work. Founder Peggy Stap praised the whale watch crews. "We could not do it without them," she said warmly.

The rescue was a true team effort. Boat captains, scientists, and volunteers all played a part. The whale was freed and swam back into the open ocean. It was a wonderful moment for everyone who helped.

Computers Learn to Recognize Faces Like Humans

Scientists have made a fascinating discovery about computers and faces. A new study looked at whether computers can recognize faces as well as people can.

Researchers at the University of Notre Dame ran a big experiment. They tested computer programs against 4,000 real people. The question was simple: who is better at spotting matching faces?

The results were surprising. The best computer programs are now just as good as the most skilled humans. Most people, it turns out, are only average at recognizing faces. Highly skilled people matched the computers much more closely.

The study also found that people vary quite a lot. Some of us are naturally gifted at recognizing faces. These talented people agreed with the computers about 15% more often than average participants did.

This research helps scientists build better and fairer computer programs. Understanding how humans and computers think alike is a big step forward. The findings were published in a well-respected science journal. It is exciting to know that science keeps finding new ways to understand how we see the world around us.

Students Learn Nuclear Science Skills at Special Lab

Eleven college students have finished a special new training program in nuclear science. They studied hard and are now ready to start exciting careers.

The students came from Suffolk County Community College in New York. They worked alongside scientists at Brookhaven National Laboratory. This is a world-famous science center with many smart researchers.

The program taught students about nuclear technology and radiochemistry. These are important fields that help power our world safely. Students learned in classrooms and also in real laboratories with real equipment.

Expert scientists guided each student through hands-on practice. One student even learned to operate special equipment used for processing materials safely. Having a personal mentor made learning much more fun.

The US Department of Energy helped create this program. Leaders hope to train many more young scientists this way. It is a wonderful example of schools and science centers working together to build a brighter future.

A Tiny Boat Brings Trout to More Fishermen

A clever new idea is helping fish reach more parts of a beautiful Georgia river. Workers at a fish hatchery found a fun new way to stock the Toccoa River with trout.

In the past, trucks carried fish to just three spots along the river. Those were the only places the trucks could reach. Now, a small boat called the Trout Barge is changing everything.

About 1,000 fish are loaded onto the special boat. The boat has a mesh bottom to keep the fish safe and healthy. It floats down the river and releases fish in places trucks could never go.

Volunteers from a local fishing club helped make this happen. A nearby outfitter lent his boat and know-how. A dam upstream even releases extra water for one hour each trip. This keeps the water cold and moves the boat along nicely.

Now the river gets stocked in many more spots each month. More fishermen can enjoy a great day on the water. It is a wonderful example of neighbors and nature workers joining together to do something good.

Teens Use NASA Tools to Study the Air Around Them

A new tool is helping teachers and teenagers learn about the air we breathe. It comes from NASA, America's space agency. The tool is called TEMPO-Lab, and it is free for anyone to use online.

TEMPO-Lab shows real measurements of air pollution across North America. NASA's TEMPO satellite collects this data every hour during daylight. That means the information is always fresh and up to date.

Recently, 13 educators gathered at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts. They spent three days learning how to use TEMPO-Lab with their students. The group was led by scientist Pat Udomprasert from Harvard.

Together, the teachers built lessons using real air quality data. Their examples included smoke from wildfires and pollution from morning traffic. These lessons will soon be used by teenagers doing their own research projects.

The goal is exciting. Teens will study the air in their own neighborhoods. Then they will look for ways to make that air cleaner and healthier. NASA believes young people can help make a real difference in the world around them.

Activity Time - Word Search

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

Words to Find:

SCIENCE

FLUKES

VISION

FACES

OCEAN

HUMAN

SMOKE

