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GENTLE.NEWS

In Today's Edition

"It's amazing how a little tomorrow can make up for a whole lot of yesterday."

— John Guare

NASA's Brave Pilots Helped Make Flying Safer

For many decades, a special group of pilots made history in the skies over Cleveland, Ohio. They worked for NASA's Glenn Research Center. Their brave test flights helped make air travel better and safer for everyone.

It all started back in the 1940s. Back then, the center had a different name. Engineers and pilots worked hard during World War II. They wanted to make aircraft fly higher and perform better. Their work paid off in big ways.

These early pilots flew into difficult conditions on purpose. Some flew into icy clouds. Others tested new jet engines in the sky. Flying in these conditions helped scientists learn things they could never discover in a laboratory alone.

Among the first brave pilots were Howard Lilly, Joseph Walker, and William Swann. They helped build NASA Glenn's great reputation. Their work inspired dozens of other pilots who came after them. Two of those later pilots were Neil Armstrong and Fred Haise — both future astronauts.

The work done by these pioneers still matters today. NASA continues to use what they learned. Their courage in the sky helped connect science with real life. We owe much of modern air travel to their dedication and skill.

Source: NASA

Wild Salmon Return to a Restored California Creek

A beautiful creek in California has been given a new life — and salmon are coming back because of it.

Prairie Creek runs through California's famous redwood forests. For many years, the land around it was damaged by old logging and construction. The creek became too narrow and deep for young salmon to survive there.

A group of caring people decided to change that. Scientists, nature groups, and the Yurok Tribe worked together for over ten years. The Yurok people have deep roots in this land and wanted to see it healthy again.

Workers removed a large old lumber yard from the site. They took away more than 20 acres of pavement. Then they shaped the land to let the creek spread out naturally. This created gentle ponds and wetlands where young salmon can grow strong before swimming to the sea.

Salmon along this part of California's coast had been struggling for a very long time. But now Prairie Creek is full of life again. Young salmon have new safe places to eat, rest, and grow. This is a wonderful example of people and nature working together to heal the earth.

Source: NOAA Fisheries

One Amazing Microscope Does the Work of Ten

Scientists have built a remarkable new microscope. It combines more than ten powerful tools into one machine. They call it MOSAIC.

Before MOSAIC, researchers had to move samples from one microscope to another. This was slow and often damaged the tiny specimens. Now, everything happens in one place.

MOSAIC can zoom in to see tiny molecules. It can also zoom out to see larger areas of tissue. It watches both at the same time. This helps scientists understand how living things work at many different sizes all at once.

The microscope creates enormous amounts of information. A team at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory built special computer tools to handle all that data. These tools help make sense of the millions of images MOSAIC captures. Researchers can now track how cells change and move over time in ways never possible before.

One day, this technology could help computers learn to run science experiments on their own. Scientists hope MOSAIC will speed up discoveries about diseases like Alzheimer's. This wonderful machine is opening exciting new doors for medicine and biology around the world.

Source: Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

Restored Creek Gives Young Salmon a Stronger Start

A special nature project in Northern California is giving young salmon a much better chance at life. Scientists turned an old lumber mill site into a healthy wetland. Now it is full of streams, ponds, and quiet waters.

Young salmon need calm, shallow water to rest and grow. The new wetland gives them exactly that. They can feed and grow strong before swimming out to the big ocean. A bigger, stronger fish has a much better chance of surviving.

Scientists have been watching the fish very carefully. Each fall, researchers wade into Prairie Creek. They gently catch young salmon and measure how fast they are growing. They also place a tiny chip, no bigger than a grain of rice, inside each fish. This chip helps track the salmon as they travel through the waterway.

The early results are very exciting. Young salmon in the restored creek are growing faster than before. More of them are also surviving their journey in the ocean. This is wonderful news for a fish that has been struggling.

The project shows that helping nature can truly work. When people restore a damaged habitat, wildlife can bounce back. Prairie Creek is now a hopeful example for scientists all around the world who want to help salmon thrive.

Source: NOAA Fisheries

Students Dream Up Flying Robots to Inspect Bridges

NASA is running an exciting competition for college students. The challenge asks young people to think of new ways aircraft can inspect bridges, tunnels, and other important structures.

Right now, checking big structures is hard work. Bridges and tunnels are huge. Workers sometimes must climb to dangerous heights. Some inspections even require shutting down roads or railways.

That is where flying technology could help. Small aircraft or drones could reach difficult spots safely. They could do the job faster and at lower cost. NASA believes this could be a reality by 2035 or even sooner.

The competition is called Gateways to Blue Skies. It welcomes teams of two to six students. They can study any subject, not just science. NASA wants fresh ideas from all kinds of young minds.

A NASA leader said the time is perfect for students to change how we care for our infrastructure. This is a wonderful chance for the next generation to make the world safer for everyone.

Source: NASA

Activity Time - Word Search

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

Words to Find:

WETLAND BRIDGE MOSAIC CELLS

CREEK YUROK NASA

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