

GENTLE.NEWS

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"Beauty is only skin deep, but ugly goes clean to the bone."

— Dorothy Parker

Scientists Pick Up Mysterious Signal From Deep Underground

What is the universe made of? Scientists have puzzled over this question for nearly 100 years. Most of what fills the universe cannot be seen. It is called dark matter.

Dark matter makes up about 85% of everything in the universe. We know it is there because of how it affects other objects in space. But no one has ever directly detected it — until now, maybe.

A team of 250 scientists from 39 institutions built a special detector called LUX-ZEPLIN, or LZ. It sits nearly one mile underground in South Dakota. The detector is filled with super-clean liquid xenon. Scientists buried it deep to block out distractions.

Recently, the LZ detector picked up one tiny signal that scientists cannot easily explain. It may have been caused by a dark matter particle. This is the most exciting hint the experiment has found.

Scientists are careful not to jump to conclusions. They need to collect more data before they can be sure. The experiment keeps running, gathering more information every day. One day soon, we may finally solve one of the greatest mysteries ever. That would be a truly wonderful discovery.

Robot Boats Are Helping Scientists Study the Ocean

Scientists have a new helper on the ocean — and it never gets tired. A special robot boat is sailing the waters near New England. It works day and night, all on its own.

This clever vessel is about 30 feet long. No people are on board. But it is very busy collecting important information. It measures water temperature, ocean currents, and weather conditions as it travels.

The robot boat also helps find areas where fish and tiny sea creatures called plankton are living. Every mile it travels gives scientists a better picture of life under the waves. It can even go out in winter, when rough weather makes it hard for regular ships.

Scientists say these robot boats are changing ocean research for the better. They can explore places that are too difficult or dangerous for crewed ships to reach. They work alongside regular research vessels to fill in the missing pieces of the ocean puzzle.

With each new mission, researchers learn more about the rich and wonderful world beneath the sea. The more we understand the ocean, the better we can care for it and the creatures that live there. These amazing little boats are helping make that dream come true.

Bats Have a Secret Weapon Inside Their Bodies

Bats are amazing little creatures. They are the only mammals in the world that can fly. And now scientists have found something else that makes them special.

Researchers at Tulane University made a big discovery. They found that bats have a double set of genes for making antibodies. Antibodies are tiny proteins that help fight off sickness. Every other mammal, including humans, has only one set of these genes. Bats have two.

This discovery helps explain something that has puzzled scientists for a long time. Bats can carry viruses that would make other animals very sick. Yet bats almost never get seriously ill themselves. Their double antibody system may be the reason why.

The study looked at vesper bats. This is the largest family of bats in the world. There are more than 500 species of vesper bats. They live on every continent except Antarctica. Scientists think their special immune system helps explain why they are so successful.

A scientist named Hannah Frank led the research. She said this discovery completely changes what we know about how mammal immune systems work. It also opens exciting new questions. Researchers hope that learning more about bat immunity could one day help us understand how all animals, including people, fight disease.

Smart Computers to Help Power Your Home Better

Scientists at a New York laboratory have exciting news. They are using artificial intelligence to improve the electric grid. The electric grid brings power to your home, your lights, and your appliances.

A team of researchers won \$14 million to work on this project. They will spend three years building a very smart computer system. This system will think through millions of ways to keep electricity flowing safely.

The smart computer can test one billion different plans in just one day. That would take human workers many, many years to figure out on their own. This will help make sure everyone gets the power they need.

The project is led by Brookhaven National Laboratory in New York. They work closely with the U.S. Department of Energy. Together, they want to make our power supply stronger and more reliable for everyone.

This is great news for all of us. A better electric grid means fewer power outages. It also means energy can reach more homes across the country. Smart technology is helping make everyday life a little easier and brighter for everyone.

Your Heart and Lungs Help Your Brain Think

Have you ever felt "butterflies in your stomach" or a "racing heart" when excited? Scientists now know there is a real reason for these feelings.

New research shows that your brain does not work alone. Your heart, lungs, and stomach all send signals to your brain. Together, they shape how you think and feel every moment of the day.

Scientists describe it like an orchestra. Your heartbeat, breathing, and digestion keep a steady rhythm. Your brain uses those rhythms to stay organized. Each part plays its own role, but they all work together to make beautiful music.

Breathing is a wonderful example. Studies show that people remember things better when they breathe in. A photo seen during an inhale is easier to recall than one seen while breathing out. Something as simple as a breath can quietly sharpen your memory and focus.

This research is exciting because it shows how remarkable your body truly is. Every heartbeat and every breath helps your mind stay clear and connected. Your brain and body are lifelong partners, always working together to keep you feeling like yourself.

Activity Time - Word Search

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

Words to Find:

DETECTOR

SIGNAL

VESSEL

OCEAN

BRAIN

FISH

GRID

