

GENTLE.NEWS

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"Youth is happy because it has the capacity to see beauty. Anyone who keeps the ability to see beauty never grows old."

— Franz Kafka

Young Scientists Study the Ocean This Summer

Every summer, young people across America get a special chance to study the ocean. This year, 22 students joined a program run by NOAA, the group that watches over America's oceans and weather.

The students came from 10 different states. They traveled to the Northeast Fisheries Science Center to do real science work. Each student had an expert scientist to guide and teach them.

The students explored many exciting topics. Some studied tiny ocean creatures and fish. Others looked at how ocean animals find food. A few even studied small bits of plastic that end up in the water.

One student named Kayla found something wonderful. She used a microscope to look at plastic pieces too small to see with the naked eye. Seeing them up close for the first time amazed her completely.

Another student named Tebyan loved meeting people. She enjoyed hearing the stories of other students and scientists. Making new friends made the whole experience feel special and warm. These students are learning to care for our oceans. Their work gives us all hope for a brighter future ahead.

71 Countries Team Up to Share Moon Discoveries

Space exploration just got more exciting. NASA has made a wonderful promise to the world. Every Moon rock, dataset, and discovery from its Artemis program will be shared freely with scientists everywhere.

This sharing is backed by 71 countries worldwide. They have all signed the Artemis Accords. This agreement sets out fair and open rules for exploring space. It ensures discoveries belong to everyone.

NASA recently held special online workshops. Scientists from many nations joined together to talk. They discussed the best ways to share space data quickly. India's space agency helped lead earlier talks in May.

Jacob Bleacher, NASA's chief exploration scientist, spoke warmly about the effort. He said teams are making tools and results free for all to use. He called it a great step toward deeper understanding.

The goal reaches beyond our Moon. NASA hopes this teamwork will also guide future trips to Mars. By working together openly, humanity moves forward. The universe holds many secrets, and we will find them.

Clever Wooden Dams Bring Salmon Back to Life

A simple idea has helped save salmon in California. Scientists built small dams in dried-up creeks. They used wooden posts and willow branches woven together. These are called beaver dam analogues. They work just like real beaver dams do.

The little dams slow down the water in the creek. This keeps more water in the stream through dry summers. That gives salmon a cool, wet place to live and grow. The results surprised even the scientists themselves.

Researchers tried this in Sugar Creek and French Creek in Northern California. Within just two years, more adult salmon were swimming back to these streams. Baby salmon were also surviving in much greater numbers. Other nearby creeks without the dams lost their fish.

One scientist said people doubted the idea at first. But then the fish came back, and everyone could see it working. Watching the salmon thrive was wonderful. Nature had found a way forward with a little help.

The best news is that these simple dams are cheap and easy to build. They help salmon bounce back even when droughts become worse. By copying what beavers do, people can protect fish and restore healthy streams for generations to come. Nature and people working together is a beautiful thing.

Ancient Footprints Lead to Hawaii's Hidden Volcano Trail

Hawaii's big island has a wonderful secret. A quiet trail winds through a place called the Ka'ū Desert. This trail is near the famous Kīlauea volcano.

The trail is called the Footprints Trail. Long ago, in 1790, a volcano erupted. It scattered soft, warm ash across the ground. Native Hawaiian people walked through this ash. Their footprints hardened like cement. You can still see those footprints today!

A short walk brings you to a covered shelter. Signs there tell the story of those ancient footprints. It is a peaceful and magical spot. Many visitors love stopping there to read and reflect.

If you walk a little further, something amazing awaits. You reach a high point called the Maunaiki shield. From there, you can see for miles in every direction. This beautiful hill was formed by a long eruption. Lava slowly built it up between 1919 and 1920. It took about eight months to form.

Scientists have watched over this volcano for many years. The Hawaiian Volcano Observatory first opened in 1912. Dedicated researchers have lovingly recorded every eruption since then. Thanks to their work, we understand these wonders much better. Kīlauea continues to remind us how alive our Earth truly is.

Tiny Fiber of Light Helps Scientists Measure Movement

Scientists have found a clever new way to measure motion very precisely. They use a thread of glass so thin that 200 of them could fit inside one human hair.

A researcher named Jongmin Lee works at a place called Sandia National Laboratories. He shines laser light through this tiny glass thread. The light creates a soft glow around the outside of the fiber.

Inside that glow, atoms float gently in a line. Think of it like tiny marbles rolling through a narrow tube. The atoms stay in place even when the fiber moves. This helps scientists measure motion with great care.

The team hopes to shrink this whole system down to fit on a small chip. That chip could one day be used out in the real world, not just in a laboratory. The device uses very little power, far less than one small light bulb.

This kind of sensor could one day help people in many ways. Scientists believe it will lead to better tools for measuring movement in all sorts of places. It is an exciting step forward in a field called quantum science.

Activity Time - Word Search

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

Words to Find:

BEAVER

CRATER

MUSSEL

LASER

CREEK

FIBER

MOON

