

GENTLE.NEWS

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"The library is inhabited by spirits that come out of the pages at night."

— Isabel Allende

Scientists Uncover 15,000 Years of Yellowstone's Story

Scientists have been studying Yellowstone National Park in a remarkable way. They are reading clues left behind in lakes and soil to understand how the land has changed over thousands of years. Their findings are full of wonderful surprises.

The researchers use something called "proxies." These are natural clues from long ago. Think of them like nature's own diary. Pollen grains, tree rings, and tiny charcoal bits are all preserved in the ground. Each one tells part of the story.

When scientists pull up mud from the bottom of Yellowstone's lakes, they find pollen from ancient plants. These plants show what the weather was like long ago. Cold-weather plants mean cold times. Different plants mean warmer times. It is like a puzzle hidden in the earth.

Layers of charcoal in the mud tell scientists about wildfires from thousands of years ago. Tree rings show wet years and dry years. Together, these clues paint a picture going back 15,000 years, to the end of the last Ice Age.

This research helps us understand how Yellowstone may change in the future. Scientists from three universities worked together on this project. Their teamwork shows how much we can learn when curious minds join

forces. Nature has been keeping its secrets. Now we are learning to read them.

Space Telescope Catches a Star "Breathing" on Its Neighbor

Scientists have made an exciting discovery in space. A powerful telescope has watched one star feeding energy to another. It is a beautiful cosmic dance happening far, far away.

The telescope is called XRISM. It is a joint project between NASA and Japan's space agency. Together, they pointed it at two stars traveling through space as a pair.

One star is enormous. It is 40 times bigger than our Sun. This giant star constantly breathes out streams of hot gas into space. Scientists call this a "stellar wind." It is like the star is slowly exhaling.

The other star is very small and dense. It is called a pulsar. Every four days, the pulsar travels through the giant star's gas stream. As it passes through, it pulls in the gas. This gives the pulsar a powerful burst of energy. It glows brightly with X-rays each time this happens.

Scientists say they have never seen this process so clearly before. The new telescope showed them amazing details. Researcher Roi Rahin said the team can now test ideas about how stars work in much greater detail. This discovery helps us understand how the universe was built, one star at a time.

Kelp Farms Welcome Sea Life in Alaska Waters

Scientists in Alaska made a happy discovery. Seaweed farms are good neighbors to ocean animals. Fish and other sea creatures live comfortably near these farms.

Researchers studied kelp farms along Alaska's beautiful coastline. They compared areas with farms to areas without them. The good news? Animals were doing just as well in both places.

Kelp is a tall, flowing seaweed that grows in cold water. Alaska has very clean, cold ocean water. This makes it a perfect place to grow kelp. Small farms are spread across Alaska's stunning coast.

These farms are active in fall, winter, and spring. They give coastal communities a way to earn a living. Many people find good work on and near the water because of these farms.

Scientists are pleased with what they found. Kelp farms and ocean animals can live side by side in peace. This research helps people farm the sea in a kind, careful way. It is good news for Alaska and for ocean life everywhere.

Scientists Learn to Predict Hawaii's Famous Lava Fountains

Hawaii's Kīlauea volcano puts on a beautiful show. It shoots tall fountains of glowing lava into the air. Now, scientists can often predict when the next fountain will appear. This is an exciting step forward for volcano science.

A team from the U.S. Geological Survey watches the volcano closely. They use special instruments called tiltmeters. These tools measure tiny movements in the ground. When a lava fountain stops, the ground slowly puffs back up. When it is fully puffed up again, a new fountain is near.

This steady pattern let scientists make forecasts. Think of it like a slow, deep breath. The volcano breathes out during a fountain, then breathes back in. When the breath is full, the next fountain begins. It is a wonderful rhythm found in nature.

Sometimes the volcano surprises the scientists. The ground would dip down unexpectedly for a day or two. Then it would rise again, sometimes faster than before. The fountain would still arrive, just on a slightly different schedule.

Scientists keep learning more with every new fountain. Each surprise teaches them something new about how volcanoes work. Their work helps everyone better understand and appreciate these magnificent natural wonders here on Earth.

America Builds Tiny Chips to Power Tomorrow's Technology

Scientists in America are working on something very exciting. They are building better computer chips. These tiny chips power almost everything we use today.

Computer chips are inside phones, televisions, and medical devices. They help run hospitals and keep people safe. Making better chips means better tools for everyone.

The National Science Foundation has started a big new program. It is called NSF ELEGANT. The goal is to turn new chip ideas into real products that factories can make.

Right now, chip-making technology is not keeping up with our needs. Scientists have great new ideas in their labs. But moving those ideas into factories has been very hard. This program helps bridge that gap.

Companies will work side by side with scientists. Together they will test and improve new chip designs. Better chips will help computers think faster. They will also help phones talk to each other more clearly. America hopes to lead the world in making these amazing tiny devices.

Activity Time - Word Search

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

Words to Find:

SEAWEED PULSAR SUMMIT POLLEN
GROWTH LAVA CHIP

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