

GENTLE.NEWS

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*"You yourself, as much as anybody in the entire universe, deserve your
love and affection"*

— Sharon Salzberg

Satellites Help Farmers Use Water Wisely

Did you know that satellites in space help farmers water their crops just right? It is true! For over 40 years, NASA satellites called Landsat have been taking photos of farms and fields all around the world.

These satellites do something very clever. They measure how much water moves from the ground and plants up into the air. This helps farmers know exactly how much water their crops need. Not too much. Not too little. Just right.

Scientists use this information to help farmers save water. When farmers know how much water their fields are using, they can make smarter choices. This helps crops grow well and keeps our rivers and lakes healthy too.

The Landsat satellites have been watching over our farms since 1982. That is more than four decades of helpful information! Scientists can look back through all those years of pictures to learn how water use has changed over time.

This amazing tool works on farms in every part of the world. Whether fields are hot and dry or cool and wet, the satellites keep watch. It is wonderful to know that technology in space is helping to protect our precious water supply right here on Earth.

Computers Are Now Interviewing Job Seekers

Finding a job used to mean shaking hands and sitting down for a chat. Today, many companies use computers to do the first interview. This is changing how people act when they look for work.

Researchers at the University of Georgia studied this new trend. They found that job seekers behave differently when a computer is watching. Many people feel nervous and unsure. They do not know what the computer is looking for.

In these new interviews, a person records answers to questions on video. No one is watching live. Later, a computer program reviews the answers. It sorts and grades each person. Then it picks who moves on.

The study found that people often try too hard to impress the computer. They may stretch the truth about themselves. They do not mean to be dishonest. They just feel confused and want to do well.

Researchers say companies should know this is happening. People do best when they feel comfortable and understood. Scientists hope this study will help companies find kinder and fairer ways to hire. The goal is always to find the right person for the right job.

Veteran Finds New Mission Protecting Salmon

A former Marine found a surprising second calling. Addison Emerson spent ten years serving in the military. He worked as a helicopter mechanic. Now he protects salmon in Washington State.

Addison is a member of the Skokomish Tribe. After leaving the military, he returned home to fish. He had fished these waters all his life. But something had changed. Each year, fewer salmon were returning.

Watching the salmon disappear broke his heart. He wanted to understand why this was happening. His military training had taught him to pay close attention to details. He used those same skills to study nature.

Addison began researching the history of his tribe and salmon. He learned that salmon had always been at the heart of his people's way of life. Protecting salmon meant protecting his culture and heritage. That gave his new mission deep meaning.

Today, Addison works in biological fieldwork to help salmon recover. He brings military discipline and tribal wisdom to conservation. His story shows that life can lead us in wonderful directions. The skills we learn in one place can help us do good somewhere new.

NASA Brings Space Magic to Houston Festival

NASA brought the wonder of space to a big festival in Houston, Texas. Thousands of people came to learn about rockets, astronauts, and life beyond Earth.

The festival celebrated Japanese culture for the 33rd year. People enjoyed food, dancing, music, and more. NASA joined the fun as a special exhibitor.

At the NASA booth, visitors could try on a real astronaut glove and helmet. They also saw models of the Orion spacecraft and the Space Station. People learned about the exciting Artemis III moon mission.

NASA volunteers spoke with over 3,000 visitors. They handed out stickers and pins to excited guests. One NASA engineer said it was wonderful to see young people so passionate about space careers.

Japan's space agency, JAXA, also had a booth nearby. A real Japanese astronaut signed autographs and took photos with fans. Both agencies hope to inspire the next generation of space explorers together.

A Treasure House of American Traditions Turns 50

A beloved national center is celebrating a big birthday. The American Folklife Center turns 50 years old in 2026. It has spent half a century collecting and sharing America's folk traditions.

Congress created the center back in 1976. Its job was to protect the living traditions of everyday Americans. That includes fiddle music, quilt patterns, holiday customs, family recipes, and work songs. These traditions come from communities all across the country.

Today, the center holds one of the largest folk culture collections in the world. Scholars and community members visit to share knowledge. The center also puts on public programs that bring these traditions to life.

To mark the birthday, a special exhibition has opened. It is called "Alive in Many Hands: The American Folklife Center at 50." Visitors can explore fascinating items from the collection. One highlight is a colorful sailor's certificate from World War II. Sailors earned it after crossing the equator for the very first time. Old sea shanties also play in the exhibit, recalling life aboard ships long ago.

The exhibition runs through early 2028. It is part of a nationwide celebration of America's 250th birthday. It is a wonderful chance to discover the rich, varied traditions that make America special.

Activity Time - Word Search

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

Words to Find:

COMPUTER

SAILOR

ROCKET

ORION

TRIBE

GLOVE

VIDEO

