

GENTLE.NEWS

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"Respect was invented to cover the empty place where love should be."

— Leo Tolstoy

Scientists Learn How Wild Horses and Donkeys Live

The American West is home to wild horses and wild donkeys. Scientists are working hard to learn more about these beautiful animals and how they live.

A team of researchers studied wild donkeys in California's Mojave Desert. They wanted to know how the donkeys move around and what places they prefer. They found that donkeys like to stay close to water sources. This makes sense in the hot, dry desert!

The scientists also found something interesting about the seasons. In cooler, wetter months, the donkeys roamed over much larger areas. In warmer months, they stayed closer to home. Learning these patterns helps scientists understand what wild donkeys need to stay healthy and thrive.

In Nevada, researchers studied mountain lions and their hunting habits. They found that mountain lions living near wild horses made interesting choices about what to hunt. Each lion had its own style. Some switched between deer and horses depending on the time of year. Others simply hunted whatever animals were nearby.

All of this research helps people take better care of wild horses and donkeys across the West. By understanding how these animals live, scientists can help make sure they have everything they need.

A Piece of the Moon Found on Earth

High above Earth, an astronaut looked down and spotted something surprising. A bright, shining patch of rock in Madagascar looked just like the surface of the Moon!

This special rock is called anorthosite. It is the same kind of rock found on the Moon. On the Moon, it forms the bright areas we can see from Earth on clear nights. But this rock also exists right here on our own planet.

An astronaut on the International Space Station took a photo of this amazing rock on August 28, 2026. The rock formation is called the Saririaky massif. It covers about 40 square miles of southern Madagascar. It formed deep underground from cooling melted rock long, long ago.

Scientists believe this rock is at least 600 million years old. That was before dinosaurs ever walked the Earth! Back then, the land we now call Africa, India, Madagascar, and Antarctica were slowly bumping together. They formed one giant landmass called Gondwana. The rock was shaped by enormous heat and pressure during that time.

It is wonderful to think that looking at rocks on Earth can teach us about the Moon. Our planet holds so many beautiful secrets, just waiting to be discovered.

Young Student Designs Smart Storage for Giant Science Machine

A college student has made a real contribution to one of the biggest science projects in America. Robert Desjardins is a senior at Rochester Institute of Technology. He spent his summer working at Brookhaven National Laboratory in New York.

Robert was given an exciting challenge. Scientists are building a huge new machine called the Electron-Ion Collider. This machine will help researchers study the tiniest building blocks of matter. It is one of the most important science projects in the country.

To build the new collider, engineers are reusing giant magnets from an older machine. These powerful magnets need safe, careful storage. Robert's job was to design better storage stands to hold them. He created a smart new four-tier stand that fits more magnets in less space.

Robert worked closely with his mentor, engineer Jonathon Greene. Together they made sure the new design was safe and practical. Seeing his work come to life in a real science lab was a wonderful experience for the young student.

This kind of hands-on learning helps students grow into tomorrow's scientists and engineers. Programs like this give young people a chance to do work that truly matters. Robert's clever design will help this great science project for many years to come.

Meet the Farmers Who Grow Our Fresh Seafood

Did you know that seafood can be farmed, just like vegetables? Across America, hardworking people are growing fish, oysters, and even seaweed. They work along our beautiful coastlines to bring fresh food to our tables.

This special week celebrates seafood farming in the United States. These farmers work carefully to protect the ocean while growing healthy food. Their work helps coastal communities thrive and creates good jobs for many people.

In Hawaii, Ron Weidenbach raises tilapia fish on his family farm. He hopes his farm inspires others to grow local food in Hawaii. Ron believes that fresh, locally grown seafood is something to feel excited about.

In Massachusetts, Brenden Doyle grows oysters in the Great Marsh. He says oysters do more than feed people. They also help clean the water and support the community around them.

Way up in Alaska, Adelia Myrick and her family farm kelp seaweed near Kodiak Island. Her family came to Alaska for the salmon fishing. Now they use their fishing skills to grow kelp too. She says it feels amazing to find a whole new way to use what they already know and love.

Yellowstone's Hidden Hot Springs Hold Old Secrets

Deep inside Yellowstone National Park, the ground is always changing. Hot springs appear. Geysers quiet down. New pools form overnight. Scientists work hard to keep track of it all.

Back in August 1925, something dramatic happened in a place called Biscuit Basin. A hidden explosion rocked the ground near the Firehole River. Superheated water deep underground suddenly turned to steam. The blast cracked open the earth and likely created a new hot pool.

Nobody saw it happen. Visitors who came later found a new pool of steaming water. But no one was quite sure where it came from. Stories got mixed up over the years. Records were scattered and hard to find.

That is where scientists come in. Researchers from Colorado State University dug through old park records and archives. They pieced together the story like a puzzle. Old photographs and visitor notes helped fill in the gaps.

Yellowstone keeps surprising us, even after all these years. Its bubbling pools and steaming vents remind us that nature is always alive and active beneath our feet. Scientists say that is part of what makes Yellowstone one of the most magical places on Earth.

Activity Time - Word Search

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

Words to Find:

SCIENCE

CRYSTAL

MASSIF

STEAM

HORSE

MAGMA

LION

