

GENTLE.NEWS

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"Confidence is ignorance. If you're feeling cocky, it's because there's something you don't know."

— Eoin Colfer

NASA Gives Millions to Help Students Reach the Stars

NASA has some wonderful news to share. The space agency is giving 12 million dollars to 12 American schools. The money will help students and teachers do exciting space research.

The program is called M-STAR. Each school receives up to one million dollars. The funds help schools build better science and engineering programs. Students get real chances to work on space projects.

NASA wants to send astronauts back to the Moon. It also hopes to reach Mars one day. The schools will help solve problems needed for these long journeys. This work could make space travel safer and smarter.

A NASA leader named Alicia Baturoni Cortez shared her excitement. She said these investments create real opportunities. Students gain skills and knowledge that last a lifetime. Their work also helps NASA prepare for future missions.

This is a golden age for space exploration. Young people across America are now part of that journey. Their research today could shape the missions of tomorrow. The stars feel a little closer thanks to this wonderful program.

NASA Satellites Watch a Rare Ocean Warming Event

Something remarkable is happening in the Pacific Ocean right now. NASA satellites are watching a historic El Niño unfold. Scientists say it may be the strongest since 1950.

El Niño is a natural event that happens every few years. It begins when ocean water near the equator gets warmer than usual. This warming changes weather patterns around the whole world.

NASA's satellites watch the ocean from space every day. They can measure the height of the water very precisely. They even detect changes smaller than a fraction of an inch. This helps scientists understand what is happening far below the surface.

One early clue came in January 2026. Satellites spotted a giant wave of warm water moving slowly across the Pacific. These waves are called Kelvin waves. They travel thousands of miles, carrying heat from west to east. They move like a slow, invisible river beneath the surface.

NASA is sharing colorful maps so everyone can follow along. The maps show where water is warmer or higher than normal. It is wonderful that satellites help us understand our amazing planet from so far above.

Young Scientist Wins Award to Clean Our Water

A young scientist has won a big honor for his important work. Adam Nielanders works at a science lab in California called SLAC. He was chosen for a special award from the U.S. Department of Energy.

Adam is one of 67 talented young scientists picked from across the country. The award gives him five years of support and funding for his research. That is wonderful news for science and for all of us.

Adam's work focuses on cleaning up our water and soil. Some harmful substances called nitrogen contaminants can get into groundwater. Adam wants to build a device that turns them into harmless gas.

To do this, Adam uses powerful tools at SLAC and Stanford University. These tools help scientists see tiny things that eyes cannot see. Together, the two places make a great team for discovery.

A DOE leader said these researchers show "the very best of American ingenuity." Adam's work could help make cleaner water and better energy for the future. That is something worth celebrating!

Team Removes 32,000 Pounds of Harmful Fish From River

Wildlife experts recently teamed up to protect a Missouri river. They removed thousands of unwanted fish called invasive carp from the Grand River. It was a big and successful effort.

Two government wildlife teams worked together for four days. They used special boats with gentle electric equipment to find and remove the carp. In all, they pulled out 32,000 pounds of fish. The carp were then sold in commercial markets so nothing went to waste.

Invasive carp cause problems for rivers and lakes. They eat too much food and crowd out native fish. They can harm mussels, plants, and tiny creatures that other fish depend on. Removing them helps the whole river ecosystem recover and thrive.

Native fish are much better neighbors. They live in balance with their surroundings. When invasive carp are removed, native species have more food and space. The river becomes healthier for all its creatures.

Teams like these are working hard to protect rivers across the country. Their efforts help keep waterways beautiful and full of life. Clean, healthy rivers are a treasure for people, wildlife, and future generations.

Scientist Wins Top U.S. Science Award

A brilliant scientist has won one of America's highest science honors. Samuel Williams works at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in California. He was chosen for the Ernest Orlando Lawrence Award. This is a very special prize from the U.S. Department of Energy.

The award has been given to outstanding scientists since 1959. It was named after Ernest Orlando Lawrence. He was a Nobel Prize winner and a pioneer in American science. The prize goes to mid-career scientists doing exceptional work.

Samuel Williams is being honored for making computers work better and faster. He created a clever tool called the Roofline Model. It works like a map that helps computer experts find and fix problems. This makes computers solve big scientific puzzles more quickly and accurately.

This year, nine talented scientists won the Lawrence Award. They will all be celebrated at a ceremony in Washington, D.C. The Energy Secretary praised their hard work. He said these scientists help keep America a world leader in discovery and new ideas.

Samuel's work helps scientists everywhere do better research. Faster computers mean better answers to life's big questions. It is wonderful to see such dedicated people get the recognition they deserve. Well done, Samuel!

Activity Time - Word Search

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

Words to Find:

RESEARCH PACIFIC SCIENCE RIVER
WAVE MOON CARP

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