

GENTLE.NEWS

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"If you ever find yourself in the wrong story, leave."

— Mo Willems

The Amazing Story of the Teton Mountains

The Teton Mountains tell a wonderful story about our Earth. These beautiful peaks stand just south of Yellowstone Park. They are the youngest mountains in the Rocky Mountain chain. Long ago, more than 2 billion years before today, an ocean covered this area. Sea animals and plants settled on the ocean floor for millions of years. The Earth slowly pushed these materials deep underground. Deep below the surface, amazing things happened. The heat became very hot, like a giant oven. The pressure squeezed everything tightly. This changed the old sea materials into completely new types of rock. Hot melted rock called magma also pushed up through cracks. When it cooled down, it became granite. This granite now forms the tall peaks we see today. Grand Teton and Mount Moran are made of this ancient granite. Scientists can visit these mountains and read the Earth's history. The rocks tell stories of ancient oceans and volcanic activity. Nature has been writing this story for billions of years.

New App Helps People Explore Nature Safely

The Forest Service has created a helpful new phone app. It helps people plan safe trips to forests and parks. The app is called National Forests and Grasslands. People can download it for free on their phones. It works like a pocket guide for nature lovers. The app shows over 30,000 places to visit outdoors. People can find hiking trails, camping spots, and fishing areas. They can also discover places for canoeing and bike riding. The best part is that the app works even without phone service. People can download maps before their trip. This helps them stay safe in remote areas where phones don't work well. The app also shows weather alerts and safety information. People can check if trails are open before they travel. This new tool replaces 30 older apps that didn't work as well.

Scientists and Fishermen Team Up to Study Mackerel

Scientists are working with fishing boat crews to learn more about Atlantic mackerel. This exciting project will get \$2.3 million to help with the research. More than 50 fishing boats will help collect information about these fish. The fishermen know the ocean well and can help scientists understand mackerel better. The teams will use special underwater sound equipment to find and count mackerel. They will also collect fish samples and put tiny tags on some mackerel to see where they swim. Scientists want to learn when and where mackerel lay their eggs. This helps them understand how many fish live in the ocean. This teamwork between fishermen and scientists has worked well for 20 years. When fishermen and scientists share what they know, everyone learns more about ocean life.

Fish Can Swim Home Again After 50 Years

Good news for fish in California! After 50 years, salmon and steelhead can swim freely in Alameda Creek again. Workers removed the last thing blocking the fish from swimming up- stream. It was an old gas pipeline that crossed the creek. The pipeline created a big drop that fish could not swim over. The project took almost 30 years to complete. Many groups worked together to help the fish. They removed 18 different barriers along the creek. Alameda Creek used to be home to many salmon and steelhead fish. Now these special fish can swim to their old homes again. They can lay their eggs in the upper parts of the creek. One man named Jeff Miller started this work in 1997. He flew over the creek in a small plane. He saw how beautiful and wild the upper creek was. He wanted to bring the fish back home. It took much longer than he thought, but his dream came true!

The Clever Crow Who Learned to Say Thank You

A crow named Charlie lives near a school in Seattle. Every day, children eat lunch outside. Sometimes they drop crackers or bits of bread. Charlie watches carefully. He learned quickly that the children share food with him.

One girl named Rosa started bringing extra crackers. She tossed them gently near the fence. Charlie would hop closer each day. Soon he was eating right beside her. The other children watched with wide smiles.

Then something wonderful happened. Charlie began bringing small gifts. He left shiny bottle caps near Rosa's usual spot. Once he brought a smooth blue button. Scientists call this behavior gifting. Crows do it to say thank you. They remember kindness very well.

Crow experts say these birds are remarkably smart. They can recognize individual human faces. They solve puzzles and use simple tools. Some crows remember people for many years. Their brains work in surprising and complex ways.

Rosa still visits the schoolyard every day. Charlie still waits by the fence. Her collection of crow gifts now fills a small jar. Each piece tells a story of friendship. It is a reminder that kindness travels in all directions. Even a crow can teach us something beautiful about gratitude.

Activity Time - Word Search

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

Words to Find:

CAMPING SCHOOL CROW GIFT

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