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# GENTLE.NEWS

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*"No persons are more frequently wrong, than those who will not admit they are wrong."*

— François de La Rochefoucauld

## Scientists Discover Secret Volcano Hidden Under the Ocean

Deep under the Pacific Ocean, there are volcanoes we can barely see. These underwater volcanoes are hidden beneath miles of water. Scientists are working hard to learn their secrets.

In 2023, something big happened near the island of Saipan in the Pacific. A hidden underwater volcano called Ruby suddenly erupted. Scientists far away detected loud explosion sounds through the water. They could even pick up the sounds from over a thousand miles away.

Scientists also spotted something unusual from space. Satellites showed a large patch of discolored water near Ruby. The water changed color because of the eruption below. Then, after two days, everything went quiet again.

For years, scientists wondered what had happened on the ocean floor. In 2026, a research ship finally sailed out to take a closer look. Using special sound equipment, the team mapped the seafloor around Ruby. What they found was amazing.

The volcano had completely changed shape. There was a huge new crater at the top. Parts of the volcano's sides had collapsed. New rock had formed from the eruption. Scientists were thrilled with what they discovered. Every eruption teaches us something new about our amazing planet.

Source: U.S. Geological Survey

## NASA Picks New Leader for Famous Flight Research Center

NASA has chosen a new director for one of its most exciting research centers. His name is Troy Asher. He will lead the Armstrong Flight Research Center in California.

Troy Asher has spent many years working with aircraft. He is both a test pilot and an aerospace engineer. He has flown experimental planes and led important flight teams.

NASA's leader praised the appointment warmly. He said Troy has spent his career pushing the boundaries of flight. He knows how to turn big ideas into successful test flights.

Armstrong Flight Research Center is a very special place. It is where NASA tests new and exciting aircraft. The center helps develop faster and more advanced planes for the future.

Troy will now lead the center's teams and operations. NASA hopes to fly higher, farther, and faster than ever before. This is a wonderful time for American aviation and discovery.

Source: NASA

## A Desert Oasis Where Dragonflies Steal the Show

In the dry desert of New Mexico, there is a magical place called Bitter Lake National Wildlife Refuge. It sits where grassy plains meet the Chihuahuan Desert. It is full of beautiful wetlands, shimmering waters, and colorful wildlife.

Visitors love to watch pronghorn roam the grasslands. Great blue herons glide gracefully between the ponds. Jackrabbits peek out from the bushes. But every fall, the biggest stars are the tiniest ones: dragonflies! They arrive in great numbers and dazzle everyone.

The wetlands at Bitter Lake are truly special. They are fed by natural underground water. In 1980, they were named a National Natural Landmark. Then in 2010, the site received international recognition for its importance to nature and wildlife around the world.

Local friends of the refuge call it "the gem of the Pecos Valley." That is easy to believe. The waters glow in shades of aquamarine, green, red, and pink. It is one of the most colorful wild places in America.

This year marks 25 years of celebrating the amazing dragonflies of Bitter Lake. People come from far away to see them dance above the water. It is a reminder that even tiny creatures can fill our hearts with joy.

Source: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

## Tiny Tags Help Scientists Track King Crabs' Travels

Scientists have learned something exciting about red king crabs. These large, beautiful sea creatures move around more than people used to think.

Researchers attached tiny satellite tags to crabs in Bristol Bay, Alaska. The tags sent back information about where the crabs traveled. Scientists watched their journeys from spring through fall over several years.

The crabs had a clear favorite direction. Each fall, they moved west and southwest into deeper, cooler waters. In warmer years, they swam even farther west than usual. The crabs were following the temperature of the water.

This discovery is very helpful. Knowing where crabs go helps scientists protect them better. They can make sure the right ocean areas are kept safe during the times crabs need shelter most, like mating and molting season.

The findings matched perfectly with what crab fishermen were catching in the fall. Scientists and fishermen are now working together using this information. It is a wonderful example of science helping nature and people at the same time.

Source: NOAA Fisheries

## Iron During Pregnancy Helps Build Healthy Baby Brains

Scientists have made an important discovery about how babies' brains grow. A research team at the University of Rochester has found that iron plays a big role in early brain development. Their findings could help improve the health of future generations.

During the very first weeks of pregnancy, tiny cells are already building the brain. Iron helps these cells grow and organize properly. Getting enough iron during this time is very important for a baby's healthy development.

The researchers used a careful study with mice to learn more. They found that when mothers had enough iron, their babies' brains developed well. The study showed that iron helps keep many other important minerals in balance too. These include calcium, magnesium, copper, and zinc.

One key finding was especially interesting. Even after babies began getting enough iron at birth, some effects on the brain remained. This tells scientists that early iron levels really matter a great deal. The right nutrition early in pregnancy makes a lasting difference.

This research, published in The Journal of Nutrition, gives doctors new knowledge. It may help them better support the health of pregnant mothers and their babies. Scientists hope this discovery will lead to better guidelines for pregnancy nutrition.

Source: Futurity.org

## Activity Time - Word Search

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

**Words to Find:**

SEAMOUNT CALCIUM CRATER FLIGHT OCEAN OCEAN IRON

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