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GENTLE.NEWS

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"I'm oxygen and he's dying to breathe."

— Tahereh Mafi

Pennsylvania's Beautiful Hidden Canyon

Deep in northern Pennsylvania, there is a stunning hidden treasure. It is called Pine Creek Gorge. Many people call it the "Grand Canyon of Pennsylvania."

This beautiful gorge is about 1,500 feet deep. That is very deep — like stacking ten tall buildings on top of each other! It stretches for 45 miles through thick green forests.

Unlike desert canyons with bare rock walls, this gorge is covered in lush green trees and plants. Every autumn, those trees put on a breathtaking show. The green leaves turn brilliant shades of red, orange, and gold. People travel from far away just to see the colors. They are called "leaf peepers."

Long ago, during the Ice Age, giant glaciers helped shape this gorge. The ice blocked the river and created large lakes. When those lakes grew too full, water began flowing in a new direction. Over thousands of years, that flowing water carved the deep, beautiful gorge we see today.

A NASA satellite recently took a picture of the gorge from space. The photo showed the fall colors glowing like a patchwork quilt of red and gold. Nature's artwork is truly wonderful — and Pennsylvania's grand canyon is one of its finest masterpieces.

Source: NASA

Two Artists Who Showed America Yellowstone's Wonders

Long ago, most Americans had never seen Yellowstone. They had no idea what it looked like. That all changed in 1871, thanks to two talented men.

An artist named Thomas Moran and a photographer named William Jackson joined a great expedition. They traveled together into the wild Yellowstone region. What they found was truly amazing.

Moran saw colorful hot springs bubbling from the earth. He watched geysers shoot steaming water high into the air. Strange mineral terraces rose up like something from another world. He painted all of it with great care and skill.

Jackson used his camera to capture the same incredible sights. Together, their paintings and photographs told a story words could not. People on the East Coast had never imagined such wonders existed in their own country.

Their beautiful images helped America fall in love with Yellowstone. Many people believe this art helped lead to Yellowstone becoming the world's first national park. Today, we still enjoy Moran's glowing paintings and Jackson's historic photographs. They gave the gift of Yellowstone to everyone.

Source: U.S. Geological Survey

Scientists Unlock Secrets of a Remarkable Pregnancy Organ

During pregnancy, a special organ called the placenta grows inside the mother. It carries food and oxygen from mom to baby. Without it, a baby could not grow and thrive.

Scientists have now made an exciting discovery about the placenta. They found a protein inside it that had never been seen there before. A protein is a tiny building block that helps the body work properly.

This protein seems to help build blood vessels in the growing baby. Blood vessels carry blood around the body. Healthy blood vessels are very important for a baby's brain and body to develop well.

The research team is based at the Fralin Biomedical Research Institute in Virginia. They found that this protein responds to oxygen levels. That could help doctors one day treat problems that some mothers face during pregnancy.

This discovery opens a wonderful new door for science. The more we learn about the placenta, the better we can protect both mothers and their babies. Researchers are now working to understand exactly what this protein does. Every new finding brings us closer to healthier beginnings for families everywhere.

Source: Futurity.org

AI Can Learn Bad Habits From Junk Online Content

Did you know that computers can pick up bad habits? That is what scientists at Texas A&M University found. They studied a type of computer program called AI.

These AI programs learn by reading huge amounts of text. Sometimes that text comes from social media posts. Social media is full of short, flashy, low-quality writing. Think of posts that say "WOW" or "TODAY ONLY!"

When AI reads too much of this junk, something goes wrong. The programs start skipping steps when they think. They rush to give answers without thinking things through. Scientists call this "brain rot" — just like in people!

Humans can have the same problem. Reading too much low-quality content can shorten our attention spans. It can even affect memory over time. The good news is that scientists are now aware of this problem in AI.

Researchers want to find better ways to train AI programs. They hope to feed AI healthier, higher-quality information. This research will be shared at a big science conference in 2026. It is an important step toward smarter, better AI that can truly help people in meaningful ways.

Source: Futurity.org

Meet the Tiny Dinosaur That Only Ate Fruit

Scientists have found a brand new kind of dinosaur. It is called Infernogallus, which means "hell chicken." Do not let the funny name fool you! This little creature was actually quite gentle.

This dinosaur was about the size of a turkey. It weighed around 25 pounds when fully grown. It had feathers and no teeth. It walked on two legs, just like a bird.

What makes this dinosaur truly special is what it ate. It only ate fruit! No other dinosaur like this has ever been found before. Scientists say it is the first fruit-eating dinosaur ever discovered.

Researchers studied the muscles in its jaw. They found that its chewing muscles worked just like a parrot's. Parrots are also fruit eaters. This tiny dinosaur lived over 66 million years ago among giant creatures like T. rex and Triceratops.

Its fossils were found in the American West. A nearly complete skull was discovered. You can see it today at the Royal Ontario Museum. Scientists are thrilled by this sweet little dinosaur and what it teaches us about life long, long ago.

Source: Futurity.org

Activity Time - Word Search

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

Words to Find:

DINOSAUR PLACENTA FOSSIL OXYGEN

GEYSER FOREST MODEL

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