

Weekly Science Report

February 13, 2026

"I leave you, hoping that the lamp of liberty will burn in your bosoms until there shall no longer be a doubt that all men are created free and equal."

Abraham Lincoln

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Introduction

Steve Detwiler created this publication with the support of Graham Hancock and the late John Anthony West to share news and information on various disciplines to include but not limited to paleontology, space sciences, genetics, and archaeology. His goal behind sharing this publication has always been very simple, by sharing knowledge we can make our world a better place. This publication is Mr. Detwiler's contribution to bring people together and share ideas and discoveries with his fellow humans.

I hope you enjoy this publication and that the content challenges and inspires you!

The Weekly Science Report is also on social media at:

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/weeklysciencertpt/>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/wklysciencertpt>

News Articles

Paleontology, Evolution and Prehistoric Studies

Searching for dinosaur secrets in crocodile bones

<https://www.npr.org/2026/02/05/nx-s1-5693856/crocodile-farm-bones-dinosaur-growth-mystery>

Scientists Found an Ancient Human Relative Where None Was Expected

<https://scitechdaily.com/scientists-found-an-ancient-human-relative-where-none-was-expected/>

How a Black fossil digger became a superstar in the very white world of paleontology

<https://www.npr.org/2026/02/04/g-s1-107656/how-a-black-fossil-digger-became-a-superstar-in-the-very-white-world-of-paleontology>

A Prehistoric Bear Attack Ended in the Gruesome Death of a Teenage Boy Around 27,000 Years Ago

<https://www.discovermagazine.com/a-prehistoric-bear-attack-ended-in-the-gruesome-death-of-a-teenage-boy-around-27-000-years-ago-48684>

World's oldest known sewn clothing may be stitched pieces of ice age hide unearthed in Oregon cave

<https://www.livescience.com/archaeology/worlds-oldest-known-sewn-clothing-may-be-stitched-pieces-of-ice-age-hide-unearthed-in-oregon-cave>

A football-size creature may have been among the earliest plant-eating land animals

<https://www.cnn.com/2026/02/11/science/tyrannoroter-heberti-fossil-discovery>

Northern Britain's oldest human remains are of a young female child, DNA analysis reveals

<https://phys.org/news/2026-02-northern-britain-oldest-human-young.html>

More than 43,000 years ago, Neanderthals spent centuries collecting animal skulls in a cave; but archaeologists aren't sure why

<https://www.livescience.com/archaeology/human-evolution/more-than-43-000-years-ago-neanderthals-spent-centuries-collecting-animal-skulls-in-a-cave-but-archaeologists-arent-sure-why>

Two rare 5th millennium BC fetal burials in Iran reveal variable prehistoric practices

<https://phys.org/news/2026-01-rare-5th-millennium-bc-fetal.html>

New study maps where wheat, barley and rye grew before the first farmers found them

<https://phys.org/news/2026-02-wheat-barley-rye-grew-farmers.html>

Did modern humans wipe out the Neanderthals? New evidence may finally provide answers.

<https://www.livescience.com/archaeology/did-modern-humans-wipe-out-the-neanderthals-new-evidence-may-finally-provide-answers>

Archaeopteryx, one of the world's first proto birds, has a set of weird, never-before-seen features, new study reveals

<https://www.livescience.com/animals/dinosaurs/archaeopteryx-one-of-the-worlds-first-proto-birds-has-a-set-of-weird-never-before-seen-features-new-study-reveals>

History

A Greek star catalog from the dawn of astronomy, revealed

<https://www.sciencenews.org/article/greek-star-catalog-hipparchus-astronomy>

The surprising origins of Britain's Bronze Age immigrants revealed

https://www.newscientist.com/article/2515260-the-surprising-origins-of-britains-bronze-age-immigrants-revealed/?fbclid=IwdGRzaAP5pCpibGNrA_mkVmV4dG4DYWVtAjExAHNydGMGYXBwX2kDDM1MDY4NTUzMTcyOAABHjbCxSi7pXQwCLN1hOZ-dYkZ08AyZO059qe4CKso2juyJHgV3IZs2_1n0frq_aem_FUYx_qdn84_5pF6OhVcFLA&sfnsn=mo

Paleo-Inuit people braved icy seas to reach remote Greenland islands 4,500 years ago, archaeologists discover

<https://www.livescience.com/archaeology/paleo-inuit-people-braved-icy-seas-to-reach-remote-greenland-islands-4-500-years-ago-archaeologists-discover>

Ancient DNA suggests hunter-gatherers in Europe's lowlands endured until 2500 BCE

<https://phys.org/news/2026-02-ancient-dna-hunter-europe-lowlands.html>

A White Historian Claimed That Black People 'Had No History.' This Trailblazing Scholar Dedicated His Life to Proving Otherwise

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smithsonian-institution/a-white-historian-claimed-that-black-people-had-no-history-this-trailblazing-scholar-dedicated-his-life-to-proving-otherwise-180988144/>

Rumors Suggested That Anne Boleyn Was a Witch With Six Fingers. Did This Elizabethan Artist Rework a Portrait of the Tudor Queen to Debunk the Gossip?

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/rumors-suggested-that-anne-boleyn-was-witch-with-six-fingers-did-this-elizabethan-artist-rework-a-portrait-of-the-tudor-queen-to-debunk-the-gossip-180988169/>

Afghanistan Was a Crossroad of the Ancient World, Where Hellenistic Culture Blended With Buddhist Influences

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/afghanistan-was-a-crossroad-of-the-ancient-world-where-hellenistic-culture-blended-with-buddhist-influences-180988065/>

One Was a Teenage Diplomat. Another Was a Nuclear Engineer. Here's How Eight Presidents Made Their Mark Outside of the White House

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/one-was-a-teenage-diplomat-another-was-a-nuclear-engineer-heres-how-eight-presidents-made-their-mark-outside-of-the-white-house-180988146/>

How a Little-Known French Region Safeguarded the Louvre's Treasures During World War II

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/travel/how-a-little-known-french-region-safeguarded-the-louvres-treasures-during-world-war-ii-180988117/>

Archaeology

Ocean Ridge: Condo project could unearth more of town's ancient history

https://thecoastalstar.com/profiles/blogs/ocean-ridge-condo-project-could-unearth-more-ancient-history?fbclid=IwDGRzaAP6zrVleHRuA2FibQIxMQBzcnRjBmFwcF9pZAwzNTA2ODU1MzE3MjgAAR5IYT33JrojUufWrdLXBBpF7RSpGQL9PsW9Xrxq-kw4sPZvPj8wnOip0l4zwa_aem_UKcC-ETbwMh-Q500CwjimA

3D scanning and shape analysis help archaeologists connect objects across space and time to recover their lost histories

<https://theconversation.com/3d-scanning-and-shape-analysis-help-archaeologists-connect-objects-across-space-and-time-to-recover-their-lost-histories-273077>

Medieval tunnel discovered in Germany were likely used for secret cult rituals

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/science/archaeology/medieval-germany-tunnel-strange-ritual-b2919721.html>

Ancient cone-shaped vessels may have served as beeswax lamps during ritual processions, study finds

https://phys.org/news/2026-02-ancient-cone-vessels-beeswax-lamps.html#goog_rewarded

Skull fragments expand the frontiers of Iberian severed head ritual

<https://phys.org/news/2026-02-skull-fragments-frontiers-iberian-severed.html>

Viking Age mass grave holds mysterious mix of dismembered human remains and complete skeletons, including a 'giant' who'd had brain surgery

<https://www.livescience.com/archaeology/vikings/viking-age-mass-grave-holds-mysterious-mix-of-dismembered-human-remains-and-complete-skeletons-including-a-giant-whod-had-brain-surgery>

AI helps archaeologists solve a Roman gaming mystery

<https://www.sciencenews.org/article/ai-roman-board-game-limestone>

Western Europe's earliest known mule died 2,700 years ago — and it was buried with a partially cremated woman

<https://www.livescience.com/archaeology/western-europes-earliest-known-mule-died-2-700-years-ago-and-it-was-buried-with-a-partially-cremated-woman>

CT scans reveal the last moments of Inca children sacrificed as 'messengers to the gods'

<https://www.livescience.com/archaeology/ct-scans-reveal-the-last-moments-of-inca-children-sacrificed-as-messengers-to-the-gods>

Police stumble upon ancient Roman shipwreck while on routine patrol

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/science/archaeology/italy-roman-shipwreck-amphora-b2917269.html>

How did ancient Vietnamese people get such black smiles?

<https://www.science.org/content/article/how-did-ancient-vietnamese-people-get-such-black-smiles>

Archaeologists Say They've Identified Traces of a 2,000-Year-Old Love Note Still Etched Into a Wall in Ancient Pompeii

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/archaeologists-say-theyve-identified-traces-of-a-2000-year-old-love-note-still-etched-into-a-wall-in-ancient-pompeii-180988163/>

Rich medieval Christians bought graves 'closer to God' despite leprosy stigma, archaeologists find

<https://phys.org/news/2026-02-rich-medieval-christians-bought-graves.html>

Neolithic Cultural Revolution

<https://archaeology.org/issues/january-february-2026/letters-from/neolithic-cultural-revolution/>

Egyptology

Ancient rock art depicting hunters and geometric shapes discovered in Egypt's Sinai Desert — and it spans a period of 10,000 years

<https://www.livescience.com/archaeology/ancient-egyptians/ancient-rock-art-depicting-hunters-and-geometric-shapes-discovered-in-egypts-sinai-desert-and-it-spans-a-period-of-10-000-years>

General Science

Nothing to Report

Physics, Earth and Space Sciences

NASA begins mission to map the boundaries of our heliosphere

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/nasa-mission-map-boundaries-heliosphere-imap/>

Sun releases 4 strong solar flares: What to expect

<https://abcnews.go.com/US/sun-releases-4-strong-solar-flares-expect/story?id=129814702>

'Textbooks will need to be updated': Jupiter is smaller and flatter than we thought, Juno spacecraft reveals

<https://www.livescience.com/space/planets/textbooks-will-need-to-be-updated-jupiter-is-smaller-and-flatter-than-we-thought-juno-spacecraft-reveals>

NASA delays the launch of Artemis II lunar mission by at least a month

<https://www.npr.org/2026/02/03/nx-s1-5698214/nasa-artemis-ii-launch-delay-moon>

The Truth Physics Can No Longer Ignore

https://www.theatlantic.com/science/2025/12/physics-life-reductionism-complexity/685257/?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=cr&utm_campaign=2024_Content_ContentTestingII_Prospecting_Sales_Advantage&utm_content=121725_TruthPhysicsNoLongerIgnore_NA_NA_NoCTA&utm_term=ContentTestingII_Advantage&referral=FB_PAID&fbclid=IwdGRzaAPti4lleHRuA2FibQEwAGFkaWQAAAY8okyipXNydGMGYXBwX2IkDDM1MDY4NTUzMTcyOAA BHuD4y6rJW-NgOQwr5uPLJia8cWx4na-cS1yr6uglEaFxl_YvHGxmvBxGC5cK_aem_uO6nxAuTIqwmjh_ud0JoHw&campaign_id=6581568102677&ad_id=6850620995877&utm_id=6581568102677&sfnsn=mo

He witnessed the sun's power 'like nobody else before or since.' Now his first portrait has been found

<https://www.cnn.com/2026/02/12/science/solar-storm-richard-carrington-photo>

Astronomers detect a solar system they say should not be possible

<https://www.cnn.com/2026/02/12/science/solar-system-inside-out-planets>

On their way! 4 people on NASA Crew-12 mission launch to International Space Station

<https://www.npr.org/2026/02/13/nx-s1-5712808/nasa-spacex-crew-12-launch-iss>

The largest-ever satellite of its kind just unfurled its wings in low-Earth orbit

https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/the-largest-ever-satellite-of-its-kind-just-unfurled-its-wings-in-low-earth/?utm_campaign=sprinkl&utm_medium=social&utm_source=linkedin&fbclid=IwVERTSAP9-bZleHRuA2FibQIxMABzcnRjBmFwcF9pZAwzNTA2ODU1MzE3MjgAAR5jStrEqx3diuedxxVIdl5P8IHpPv0W0aBcvD5YzPliH9JnCLIW5I9A4jKXPw_aem_LdQdiBbSM8D9fGGt3XNWtg&sfnsn=mo

America's Largest Particle Collider Just Shut Down. Here's What Happens Next

<https://gizmodo.com/americas-largest-particle-collider-just-shut-down-heres-what-happens-next-2000720696>

Something supercharged Uranus with radiation during Voyager flyby 40 years ago. Scientists now know what.

<https://www.livescience.com/space/planets/something-supercharged-uranus-with-radiation-during-voyager-flyby-40-years-ago-scientists-now-know-what>

Uranus' moon 'Miranda' seems to have an ocean and possibly life

<https://www.earth.com/news/uranus-moon-miranda-may-have-hidden-ocean-possibly-extraterrestrial-life/>

Radio signal discovered at the center of our galaxy could put Einstein's relativity to the test
<https://www.livescience.com/space/astronomy/radio-signal-discovered-at-the-center-of-our-galaxy-could-put-einsteins-relativity-to-the-test>

New experiments suggest Earth's core contains up to 45 oceans' worth of hydrogen
<https://phys.org/news/2026-02-earth-core-oceans-worth-hydrogen.html>

NASA Thinks Boeing's Starliner Can Fly in April, Which Is Hilarious
<https://gizmodo.com/nasa-thinks-boeings-starliner-can-fly-in-april-which-is-hilarious-2000720614>

Can life begin on a moon without a sun?
<https://phys.org/news/2026-02-life-moon-sun.html>

Interstellar comet 3I/ATLAS survived its flyby of the sun — and gave up some secrets in the process
<https://www.space.com/astronomy/comets/interstellar-comet-3i-atlas-survived-its-flyby-of-the-sun-and-gave-up-some-secrets-in-the-process>

Vulcan Centaur rocket launches 'neighborhood watch' satellites for the US military
<https://www.space.com/space-exploration/launches-spacecraft/ula-vulcan-centaur-ussf-87-launch-space-surveillance-satellites>

Caught in the act: Astronomers watch a vanishing star turn into a black hole
<https://www.eurekalert.org/news-releases/1115742>

Environment, Climate Change and Alternative Energy Sources

China banned all fishing to save the Yangtze River. This 'nuclear' option appears to be working.
<https://www.livescience.com/planet-earth/rivers-oceans/china-banned-fishing-in-its-biggest-river-and-species-are-starting-to-recover>

EPA reverses long-standing climate change finding, stripping its own ability to regulate emissions
https://www.nbcnews.com/science/climate-change/epa-reverses-endangerment-climate-change-finding-rcna258452?fbclid=IwVERTSAP7AepleHRuA2FibQIxMQBzcnRjBmFwcF9pZAwzNTA2ODU1MzE3MjgAAR7Z011DK9XQua_yaEANTTfXgCyPyQ5qy25eSG-mEQ-sPEHUMA9OVDfXUDnTHA_aem_lexdiF8NtXiby7MrOcTuLA&utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social&sfnsn=mo

Hospitality executive gets Trump nod to lead national parks
<https://www.eenews.net/articles/hospitality-executive-gets-trump-nod-to-lead-national-parks/>

China's emissions policies are helping climate change but also creating a new problem
<https://phys.org/news/2026-02-china-emissions-policies-climate-problem.html>

Astronomers Are Closing In on the Kuiper Belt's Secrets
<https://www.wired.com/story/astronomers-are-closing-in-on-the-kuiper-belts-secrets/>

Life on Earth is lucky: A rare chemical fluke may have made our planet habitable
<https://www.space.com/space-exploration/search-for-life/life-on-earth-is-lucky-a-rare-chemical-fluke-may-have-made-our-planet-habitable>

Biological, Genetics and Medical Sciences

New generation of cancer-preventing vaccines could wipe out tumors before they form

https://www.science.org/content/article/new-generation-cancer-preventing-vaccines-wipe-tumors-form?utm_campaign=Science&utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=ownedSocial&fbclid=IwY2xjawPw9EBleHRuA2FibQlxMABicmlkETFRMzh3aVJWZ1hFSkFxFVTBvc3J0YwZhcHBfaWQQMjlyMDM5MTc4ODlwMDg5MgABHj93-4vYiQu9nGcKPX0Rqg5JepzKSoFvc0BDjOq4VhFBK2kNN07L4QYHm_Ar_aem_Hynbroj2fJrzO5RLkKW59w

Unique structure of elephant whiskers give them built-in sensing “intelligence”

<https://arstechnica.com/science/2026/02/unique-structure-of-elephant-whiskers-give-them-built-in-sensing-intelligence/>

NIH redefines ‘clinical trials,’ dividing researchers

<https://www.statnews.com/pharmalot/2026/02/12/nih-clinical-trial-definition-research-transparency/>

Gene editing that spreads within the body could cure more diseases

https://www.newscientist.com/article/2514925-gene-editing-that-spreads-within-the-body-could-cure-more-diseases/?fbclid=IwdGRzaAP6zjdjbGNrA_rOYmV4dG4DYWVtAjExAHNydGMGYXBwX2lkDDM1MDY4NTUzMTcyOAABHpu0EUmA-ipKtweQTq3Q-dKmH6rYb2NAg8mAi3K6zSfNHI7X1jvG64KkUoH5_aem_iFEKrv1OWsrVygFYuyhJNA&sfnsn=m
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Study of Buddhist Monks Finds Meditation Alters Brain Activity

https://www.wired.com/story/study-of-buddhist-monks-finds-meditation-alters-brain-activity/?utm_source=nl&utm_brand=wired&utm_mailing=WIR_Daily_021526&utm_campaign=au-d-dev&utm_medium=email&utm_content=WIR_Daily_021526&bxid=5bd6790424c17c1048020acb&cndid=41291302&hasha=3ed15b3d4270f52ce4da5de4e5031836&hashc=74eb9308055fd2296514323600108b997526be68a69044cf3fc1e2fbb0496447&esrc=twitter-newsletter-c&utm_term=WIR_Daily_Active

Amino acid 'stickers' help decode spider silk's strength and flexibility

<https://phys.org/news/2026-02-amino-acid-stickers-decode-spider.html>

Eleven genetic variants affect gut microbiome

<https://www.eurekalert.org/news-releases/1116295>

Beyond the Fitbit: Why your next health tracker might be a button on your shirt

<https://www.eurekalert.org/news-releases/1115842>

AI-guided protein design for enhanced intracellular antibodies

<https://www.eurekalert.org/news-releases/1116518>

Vaccine denial sets Americans up for more chronic illness

<https://www.livescience.com/health/viruses-infections-disease/vaccine-denial-sets-americans-up-for-more-chronic-illness>

Snakes keep evolving into cannibals — here's what scientists think is going on

<https://www.livescience.com/animals/snakes/snakes-keep-evolving-into-cannibals-heres-what-scientists-think-is-going-on>

Other

Why Elon Musk has misunderstood the point of Star Trek

https://www.newscientist.com/article/mg26935810-100-why-elon-musk-has-misunderstood-the-point-of-star-trek/?utm_term=Autofeed&utm_campaign=echobox&utm_medium=social&utm_source=Facebook&fbclid=IwdGRzaAP4JX5leHRuA2FibQIxMQBzcnRjBmFwcF9pZAwzNTA2ODU1MzE3MjgAAR7oAsYh0JCfRGGtkMrC4Cq2A8DDts_EjFqJxLbjdx8nk8cvTfiaGOK2fmRy9Q_aem_gGmjX3HGtgMxU5SmbbwqAQ&sfnsn=mo

Additional Informational

NASA is funded. Now what: A look ahead at space policy in 2026

https://www.planetary.org/articles/nasa-is-funded-now-what?utm_campaign=downlink&utm_medium=email&utm_source=20260206&s_src=downlink&s_subsrc=20260206

Resurrecting Ancient Enzymes in NASA's Search for Life Beyond Earth

<https://science.nasa.gov/science-research/planetary-science/astrobiology/resurrecting-ancient-enzymes-in-nasas-search-for-life-beyond-earth/>

NASA Selects Axiom Space for Fifth Private Mission to Space Station

<https://www.nasa.gov/news-release/nasa-selects-axiom-space-for-fifth-private-mission-to-space-station/>

NASA's Juno Measures Thickness of Europa's Ice Shell

<https://www.nasa.gov/missions/juno/nasas-juno-measures-thickness-of-europas-ice-shell/>

NASA's Perseverance Rover Completes First AI-Planned Drive on Mars

<https://www.jpl.nasa.gov/news/nasas-perseverance-rover-completes-first-ai-planned-drive-on-mars/>

A Cambrian soft-bodied biota after the first Phanerozoic mass extinction

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-025-10030-0>

Early Indians: The Story of Our Ancestors and Where We Came From

https://www.harappa.com/content/early-indians-story-our-ancestors-and-where-we-came?fbclid=IwY2xjawP3iX9leHRuA2F1bQixMABicmlkETF1bzIRRFaweGI5NUJ1dUVxc3J0YwZhchHBfaWQQMjlyMDM5MTc4ODIwMDg5MgABHmk8BoVHijKJKveed0_IL9A8NQCswj-Hla1z3rMt0SP3GwpT0Uellvvyu58j_aem_ZmFrZWR1bW15MTZieXRlcw

40th Anniversary Special Issue of Holocaust and Genocide Studies

https://academic.oup.com/hgs/pages/40th-anniversary-special-issue-of-holocaust-and-genocide-studies?utm_source=email&utm_medium=mkto&utm_campaign=20260211MCHNEWE01A&utm_content=txtlink&mkt_tok=MTY1LUtZTY02MTYAAAGf7QwNnCrij-AWfy5u6aci8T-MRIBroD0UukxKerifL_PERi6SNFfQKLu0vgBqxdaHEqRelcaeDDEpgz_qqUXstc9FyJ1CPTjwg27sBVr2Lc

2025 SWF Space Sustainability Research Fellowship Results Webinar, Feb 18

https://streamyard.com/watch/qreA84dWxCZk?utm_source=Master+List+%28Merged%29&utm_campaign=fac37b3ca6-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2024_10_15_02_47_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_0dcfca754b-272560066&mc_cid=fac37b3ca6&mc_eid=1278109aa1

A.3 NASA ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar Mission Data, Applications, Research, and Technology Team Proposal is due on March 13

<https://nspires.nasaprs.com/external/solicitations/summary/init.do?sollid=%7B0073A14E-AFC3-13BD-0128-56AFE0030B08%7D>

Core Survey by NASA's Roman Mission Will Unveil Universe's Dark Side

<https://www.nasa.gov/missions/roman-space-telescope/core-survey-by-nasas-roman-mission-will-unveil-universes-dark-side/>

AI Helps Pinpoint the Moon's First Soft Landing

<https://www.seti.org/news/ai-helps-pinpoint-the-moons-first-soft-landing/>

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Encyclopedia of Camps and Ghettos, 1933-1945
https://muse.jhu.edu/encyclopedia/ushmm?utm_source=email&utm_medium=mkto&utm_campaign=20260211MCHNEWE01A&utm_content=txtlink&mkt_tok=MTY1LUtZTy02MTYAAAGf7QwNnCasDYv2UM6rXBPLzibTEblsY5IUoqYFrFTgTqNIhGAYSu_GgOfhQRnQgeKnhcXUA8N1FIhnyeGh_FqeA0cP4W7v8M4gxWHZ872ykWU