

Weekly Science Report

March 20, 2025

“We have to create the future or others will do it for us.”

Babylon 5

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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

The first apes to walk upright may have evolved in Europe

https://www.newscientist.com/article/2518516-the-first-apes-to-walk-upright-may-have-evolved-in-europe/?fbclid=IwY2xjawQi9KRleHRuA2FibQlxMABicmlkETFDczdSemtuS1ZHT2k2N2xvc3JOYwZhcHBfaWQQMjlyMDM5MTc4ODIwMDg5MgABHnKDevNWSafaO5QJiX6fzRTKp07ikmc_7kgQ_Uw2e2JcsPQ58pVc-0EDH0xi_aem_F8H75E-dMsmplGjr3OFBBA

We've only just confirmed that Homo habilis really existed

https://www.newscientist.com/article/2518316-weve-only-just-confirmed-that-homo-habilis-really-existed/?fbclid=IwY2xjawQi9KRleHRuA2FibQlxMABicmlkETFDczdSemtuS1ZHT2k2N2xvc3JOYwZhcHBfaWQQMjlyMDM5MTc4ODIwMDg5MgABHnKDevNWSafaO5QJiX6fzRTKp07ikmc_7kgQ_Uw2e2JcsPQ58pVc-0EDH0xi_aem_F8H75E-dMsmplGjr3OFBBA

What was on the menu for Stone Age cooks? The results are surprising

https://www.cnn.com/2026/03/09/science/stone-age-cooks-menu-pottery-scli-intl?Date=20260315&Profile=CNN&utm_content=1773544642&utm_medium=social&utm_source=bluesky

Arrowhead marks found in Central Asia could prove the existence of Homo sapiens 80,000 years ago

https://phys.org/news/2026-03-arrowhead-central-asia-homo-sapiens.html?fbclid=IwY2xjawQi9KRleHRuA2FibQlxMABicmlkETFDczdSemtuS1ZHT2k2N2xvc3JOYwZhcHBfaWQQMjlyMDM5MTc4ODIwMDg5MgABHnKDevNWSafaO5QJiX6fzRTKp07ikmc_7kgQ_Uw2e2JcsPQ58pVc-0EDH0xi_aem_F8H75E-dMsmplGjr3OFBBA

Archaeological site in Chile upends theory of how humans populated the Americas ... again

https://www.theguardian.com/science/2026/mar/19/archaeological-site-in-chile-upends-theory-of-how-humans-populated-the-americas-again?utm_term=Autofeed&CMP=fb_us&utm_medium=Social&utm_source=Facebook&fbclid=IwY2xjawQi9KRleHRuA2FibQlxMABicmlkETFDczdSemtuS1ZHT2k2N2xvc3JOYwZhcHBfaWQQMjlyMDM5MTc4ODIwMDg5MgABHnKDevNWSafaO5QJiX6fzRTKp07ikmc_7kgQ_Uw2e2JcsPQ58pVc-0EDH0xi_aem_F8H75E-dMsmplGjr3OFBBA

Scientists Found a T. Rex Tooth Embedded in Another Dinosaur's Skull

<https://www.sciencealert.com/scientists-found-a-t-rex-tooth-embedded-in-another-dinosaurs-skull>

New AI tool used to identify dinosaur tracks makes accidental discovery about the origin and evolution of birds

<https://www.earth.com/news/ai-tool-identify-dinosaur-footprints-makes-unexpected-bird-origin-discovery/>

Neanderthals used antibiotics, new experiment suggests

<https://www.popsci.com/health/neanderthals-antibiotic-birch-tar-medicine/>

Fossil X-ray reveals new species of baby dino named for iconic Korean cartoon

<https://phys.org/news/2026-03-fossil-ray-reveals-species-baby.html>

Ancient DNA reshapes the story of early Pacific migrations

https://www.science.org/content/article/ancient-dna-reshapes-story-early-pacific-migrations?utm_campaign=News+from+Science&utm_medium=ownedSocial&utm_source=facebook&fbclid=IwdGRzaAQoV3ZjbGNrBChXnmV4dG4DYWVtAjExAHNydGMGYXBwX2lkDDM1MDY4NTUzMTcyOAABHqfQTKwEgkm6jR9IBh8_BFaScxeWuN1EIGuBYe2onM2Wuyc0oHQyasfQnMBz_aem_l3jQaxbGdg6XBdi9MYEToA&sfnsn=mo

The lost languages of ancient humans: Listen to stone-age chat

<https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20260303-listen-to-stone-age-chat-the-lost-languages-of-ancient-humans>

Neanderthals May Have Hunted Giant Elephants that Roamed across Prehistoric Europe

<https://www.sci.news/paleontology/straight-tusked-elephant-paleoecology-14625.html>

History

Treasure hunter freed from jail after refusing to turn over shipwreck gold

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cg4q7kn99q3o>

Cesar Chavez Foundation 'deeply shocked' over civil rights leader allegations

<https://www.nbcbayarea.com/news/local/cesar-chavez-allegations-inappropriate-behavior/4053216/>

Scientists Deciphered 3,000-Year-Old 'Oracle Bones'—and Found Evidence of an Ancient Disaster

<https://www.popularmechanics.com/science/archaeology/a70642727/oracle-bones-typhoons-china/>

A Native Soldier Allied With the British Killed a Young White Woman in 1777. Propaganda Transformed Her Into a Martyr of the American Revolution

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/a-native-soldier-allied-with-the-british-killed-a-young-white-woman-in-1777-propaganda-transformed-her-into-a-martyr-of-the-american-revolution-180988313/>

The Little-Known Story of the Enslaved Africans Who Found Freedom in the European Fight Over North America

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/travel/the-little-known-story-of-the-enslaved-africans-who-found-freedom-in-the-european-fight-over-north-america-180988252/>

Archaeology

Europe's oldest handgun may date to 14th-century siege at German castle

<https://www.livescience.com/archaeology/europes-oldest-handgun-may-date-to-14th-century-siege-at-german-castle>

The Yamna reused sacred spaces in the north Pontic Steppe, study suggests

<https://phys.org/news/2026-03-yamna-reused-sacred-spaces-north.html>

The First Humans to Settle Down Were Wearing Their Food as Jewelry

<https://www.sciencenewstoday.org/the-first-humans-to-settle-down-were-wearing-their-food-as-jewelry>

5,500-Year-Old Settlement Discovered at Lake Titicaca, Bolivia

<https://greekreporter.com/2026/03/20/settlement-discovered-lake-titicaca-bolivia/>

Return to Serpent Mountain

<https://archaeology.org/issues/march-april-2026/features/return-to-serpent-mountain/>

Celtic Temple Site Excavated in Eastern France

<https://archaeology.org/news/2026/03/20/celtic-temple-site-excavated-in-eastern-france/>

Archaeologists Reconstruct 3,500-Year-Old Loom

<https://archaeology.org/news/2026/03/19/archaeologists-reconstruct-3500-year-old-loom/>

Egyptology

'Cikai Korran came here and saw': Visitors from India graffitied dozens of Egyptian tombs 2,000 years ago

<https://www.livescience.com/archaeology/ancient-egyptians/cikai-korran-came-here-and-saw-visitors-from-india-graffitied-dozens-of-egyptian-tombs-2-000-years-ago>

Upper Egypt site has now yielded more than 43,000 inscribed pot sherds, a record-breaking trove of information

<https://phys.org/news/2026-03-upper-egypt-site-yielded-inscribed.html>

The Egyptians Used an Ancient Version of Wite-Out to Correct Their Mistakes on This Papyrus Scroll 3,300 Years Ago

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/the-egyptians-used-an-ancient-version-of-wite-out-to-correct-their-mistakes-on-this-papyrus-scroll-3300-years-ago-180988331/>

General Science

Big tech 'leave poor farmers sidelined' in AI revolution

<https://www.scidev.net/global/news/big-tech-leave-poor-farmers-sidelined-in-ai-revolution/>

Scientists make a pocket-sized AI brain with help from monkey neurons

<https://www.npr.org/2026/03/03/nx-s1-5729433/ai-brain-monkey-neurons>

Physics, Earth and Space Sciences

Senate Committee Clears New NASA Authorization Bill, Calls for Moon Base

<https://spacepolicyonline.com/news/senate-committee-clears-new-nasa-authorization-bill-calls-for-moon-base/>

Incoming! 1,300-pound NASA satellite crashes back to Earth over eastern Pacific Ocean

<https://www.space.com/space-exploration/satellites/incoming-1-300-pound-nasa-satellite-will-crash-to-earth-on-march-10>

NASA shares photos of an extraordinary event witnessed by astronauts on the space station

<https://www.earth.com/news/nasa-extraordinary-event-photo-storms-red-sprites-from-iss-astronauts/>

NASA lost a lunar spacecraft one day after launch. A new report details what went wrong

<https://www.npr.org/2026/02/26/nx-s1-5727622/nasa-lunar-trailblazer-moon-new-report-what-went-wrong>

A massive asteroid hit the North Sea and triggered a 330-foot tsunami

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2026/03/260311004836.htm>

'Dark oxygen' discovery on the seafloor is 'fundamentally at odds with thermodynamics' and should be retracted, experts say

<https://www.livescience.com/planet-earth/rivers-oceans/dark-oxygen-discovery-on-the-seafloor-is-fundamentally-at-odds-with-thermodynamics-and-should-be-retracted-experts-say>

They Searched the Bermuda Triangle for a Legendary WWII Plane—and Found a Piece of the Challenger Instead

<https://www.popularmechanics.com/space/a70723998/shuttle-challenger-debris-discovery/>

Scientists witness birth of one of the universe's strongest magnets for the first time, thanks to a general relativity 'magic trick'

<https://www.livescience.com/space/astronomy/scientists-witness-birth-of-one-of-the-universes-strongest-magnets-for-the-first-time-thanks-to-a-general-relativity-magic-trick>

'At the edge of what we thought possible': Astronomers find extremely rare star from ancient universe

<https://www.space.com/astronomy/stars/at-the-edge-of-what-we-thought-possible-astronomers-find-extremely-rare-star-from-ancient-universe>

NASA's Perseverance Mars rover discovers even older lost rivers at Jezero Crater

<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/nasas-perseverance-mars-rover-discovers-even-older-lost-rivers-at-jezero/>

All 5 'letters' of DNA found on an asteroid speeding through our solar system. What do they tell us about the origins of life?

<https://www.livescience.com/space/asteroids/all-5-letters-of-dna-found-on-an-asteroid-speeding-through-our-solar-system-what-do-they-tell-us-about-the-origins-of-life>

SpaceX reaches 10,000 simultaneous Starlink satellites in orbit following Falcon 9 launch from California

<https://spaceflightnow.com/2026/03/16/live-coverage-spacex-to-launch-25-starlink-satellites-on-falcon-9-rocket-from-california/>

'Miracle': Europe reconnects with lost spacecraft

<https://phys.org/news/2026-03-miracle-europe-reconnects-lost-spacecraft.html>

Meteorite hunters scour Ohio for fragments of 7-ton space rock that crashed into Earth
<https://www.ksl.com/article/51468574/meteorite-hunters-scour-ohio-for-fragments-of-7-ton-space-rock-that-crashed-into-earth>

Chinese Orbiter Crushes Starlink With a 2-Watt Laser From 36,000km Above Earth
<https://dailygalaxy.com/2026/03/chinese-satellite-outpaces-starlink-2-watt-laser-from-orbit/>

'This is really intolerable!': Astronomers protest giant orbiting mirror project and SpaceX's million AI satellites
<https://www.space.com/space-exploration/satellites/this-is-really-intolerable-astronomers-protest-giant-orbiting-mirror-project-and-spacexs-million-ai-satellites>

Environment, Climate Change and Alternative Energy Sources

EU-banned pesticides widely used in Latin America

<https://www.scidev.net/global/news/eu-banned-pesticides-widely-used-in-latin-america/>

Easy-to-use solar panels are coming, but utilities are trying to delay them

<https://www.npr.org/2026/03/12/nx-s1-5737287/solar-panels-utilities-energy-saving>

Countries are negotiating rules to mine the deep sea. The U.S. is pushing ahead alone

<https://www.npr.org/2026/03/13/nx-s1-5736150/deep-sea-mining-impact-critical-minerals>

Minnesota joins 24 states suing EPA over repeal of greenhouse gas endangerment finding

<https://www.cbsnews.com/minnesota/news/minnesota-epa-lawsuit-greenhouse-gas-endangerment-finding/>

Apache women seek court intervention as federal land is turned over for copper mining

<https://apnews.com/article/arizona-oak-flat-copper-mining-apache-024697a87552094c70abf8afa0ed8241>

The freshwater hidden beneath the Great Salt Lake

<https://www.eurekalert.org/news-releases/1120685>

Indigenous wisdom can guide Indonesia's efforts to build a sustainable ocean economy

<https://phys.org/news/2026-03-indigenous-wisdom-indonesia-efforts-sustainable.html>

Biological, Genetics and Medical Sciences

Last-mile surveillance can end neglected diseases—study

<https://www.scidev.net/global/news/last-mile-surveillance-can-end-neglected-diseases-study/>

Q&A: Chronic lung disease an 'invisible' global crisis

<https://www.scidev.net/global/opinions/qa-chronic-lung-disease-an-invisible-global-crisis/>

Breakthrough sickle cell gene therapy a distant hope in Africa

<https://www.scidev.net/global/news/breakthrough-sickle-cell-gene-therapy-a-distant-hope-in-africa/>

Bringing marine life back to South Florida's 'forgotten edge'

<https://www.npr.org/2026/03/17/nx-s1-5615448/seawall-marine-wildlife-biodiversity-artificial-habitat-mangrove>

New autism group meets to counter MAHA's 'ideological agenda'

<https://www.npr.org/2026/03/19/nx-s1-5752354/new-autism-alternative-group-maha-ideological-agenda>

More animals die from H5N1 avian flu at Ano Nuevo State Park in California

<https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/avian-influenza-bird-flu/more-animals-die-h5n1-avian-flu-ano-nuevo-state-park-california>

'Parasites of human societies': How did we end up so close to cats?

<https://www.livescience.com/animals/cats/parasites-of-human-societies-how-did-we-end-up-so-close-to-cats>

Scientists Discover Bizarre New Tarantula Species Unlike Anything Seen Before

<https://scitechdaily.com/scientists-discover-bizarre-new-tarantula-species-unlike-anything-seen-before/>

Platypus fur has a surprising feature seen only in bird feathers

<https://www.sciencenews.org/article/platypus-fur-hollow-like-bird-feather>

Scientists reveal why Black Death led to plant diversity plummeting across Europe

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/science/archaeology/black-death-plague-europe-plant-diversity-b2933087.html>

Biomed engineering student at NJIT shines a light on rare colon cancer

<https://www.eurekalert.org/news-releases/1120675>

Other

FBI involved in search for retired Air Force major general missing for nearly 2 weeks

<https://www.cnn.com/2026/03/11/us/retired-air-force-general-fbi-search>

\$3.5 Million Star Trek-Inspired XPRIZE Film Competition Launched In Partnership With Roddenberry

<https://trekmovie.com/2026/03/11/3-5-million-star-trek-inspired-xprize-film-competition-launched-in-partnership-with-roddeberry/>

Inside Skinwalker Ranch, a Paranormal Hotbed of UFO Research

https://www.vice.com/en/article/inside-skinwalker-ranch-a-paranormal-hotbed-of-ufo-research/?fbclid=IwDGRzaAQR7T1jbGNrBBHtZWV4dG4DYWVtAjExAHNyDGMGYXBwX2lkDDM1MDY4NTUzMTcyOAABHu1Mw4TamY8MBIAU1T8vCcuadUf1yYNjhglgwCqCWLXsD15qAWVWb4rUJLX1_aem_IU11d0QjJJpt-MtUXm6Z3Q&sfnsn=mo

Additional Informational

Work ongoing to restore contact with Proba-3's Coronagraph

https://www.esa.int/Enabling_Support/Space_Engineering_Technology/Work_ongoing_to_restore_contact_with_Proba-3_s_Coronagraph

Track NASA's Artemis II Mission in Real Time

https://www.nasa.gov/missions/artemis/artemis-2/track-nasas-artemis-ii-mission-in-real-time/?utm_source=TWITTER&utm_medium=NASAArtemis&utm_campaign=NASASocial&linkId=916124847

NASA's DART Mission Changed Orbit of Asteroid Didymos Around Sun

<https://www.nasa.gov/missions/dart/nasas-dart-mission-changed-orbit-of-asteroid-didymos-around-sun/>

Why do some planets have rings and others don't?

https://www.planetary.org/articles/why-do-planets-have-rings?utm_campaign=downlink&utm_medium=email&utm_source=20260313&s_src=downlink&s_subsrc=20260313

Space Policy Edition: Is there really a space race between the US and China?

https://www.planetary.org/planetary-radio/spe-us-china-space-race?utm_campaign=downlink&utm_medium=email&utm_source=20260313&s_src=downlink&s_subsrc=20260313

Rock art from at least 67,800 years ago in Sulawesi

https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-025-09968-y?fbclid=IwdGRzaAQVFSxjbGNrBBUNWGV4dG4DYWVtAjExAHNydgMGYXBwX2IkDDM1MDY4NTUzMTcyOAABHhGyqRSS9kbAliZpwUZwPjzifdYvpKa186EuxGwGGWUzAAP1swYKqoV48hl_aem_jjXmNAdutJQp_ZlriHdc2A&sfnsn=mo

Extremophile survives the transient pressures associated with impact-induced ejection from Mars

<https://academic.oup.com/pnasnexus/article/5/3/pgag018/8503064>

NASA Adds Mission to Artemis Lunar Program, Updates Architecture

<https://www.nasa.gov/news-release/nasa-adds-mission-to-artemis-lunar-program-updates-architecture/>

Lightning-generated waves detected at Mars

<https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/sciadv.aeb4898>

Fiber-Optic Sensors Reveal How Farming Destroys Soil's Natural Structure

https://english.cas.cn/newsroom/research-news/202603/t20260316_1152740.shtml

Local agricultural transition, crisis and migration in the Southern Andes

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-026-10233-z>

Global ocean heat content over the past 3 million years

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-026-10116-3>

Hubble unexpectedly catches comet breaking up

<https://esahubble.org/news/heic2606/>

NASA's Dragonfly Mission Begins Rotorcraft Integration, Testing Stage

<https://science.nasa.gov/blogs/dragonfly/2026/03/10/nasas-dragonfly-mission-begins-rotorcraft-integration-testing-stage/>

The 18th European Space Conference: Dreaming of European boots on the Moon

https://www.planetary.org/planetary-radio/2026-european-space-conference?utm_campaign=downlink&utm_medium=email&utm_source=20260320&s_src=downlink&s_subsrc=20260320

Asteroid Bennu's Rugged Surface Baffled NASA, We Finally Know Why

<https://science.nasa.gov/missions/osiris-rex/asteroid-bennu-s-rugged-surface-baffled-nasa-we-finally-know-why/>

The Artemis II mission: What to expect

https://www.planetary.org/articles/artemis-ii-what-to-expect?utm_campaign=downlink&utm_medium=email&utm_source=20260320&s_src=downlink&s_subsrc=20260320

Tianwen-3: China's Mars sample return mission

https://www.planetary.org/articles/tianwen-3-china-mars-sample-return-mission?utm_campaign=downlink&utm_medium=email&utm_source=20260320&s_src=downlink&s_subsrc=20260320

NASA's Artemis II Rocket Arrives at Launch Pad 39B

<https://www.nasa.gov/blogs/missions/2026/03/20/nasas-artemis-ii-rocket-arrives-at-launch-pad-39b/>