

Weekly Science Report

April 3, 2026

“Star Trek places its bet on the best in human nature. It dares to imagine a society of “infinite diversity in infinite combinations,” free of war, hate, poverty, disease, and repression, and dedicated to the spirit of scientific inquiry and respect for all life, whether carbon or silicon-based, green-skinned or blue.”

Alex Kurtzman and Noga Landau

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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

Giant dragonflies once roamed Earth's skies. New research upends the textbook theory of why they went extinct

<https://theconversation.com/giant-dragonflies-once-roamed-earths-skies-new-research-upends-the-textbook-theory-of-why-they-went-extinct-278997>

Study Finds Europe's Neanderthals Descended from a Single Population

<https://greekreporter.com/2026/03/25/europe-neanderthals-descended-single-population/>

In an Underwater Cave, Divers Just Found the Largest Collection of Monkey Fossils No One Fully Understood Until Now

<https://dailygalaxy.com/2026/03/underwater-cave-largest-monkey-fossils/>

Gran Dolina site at Atapuerca reveals almost exclusive use of local chert 400,000 years ago

https://phys.org/news/2026-03-gran-dolina-site-atapuerca-reveals.html#google_vignette

Divers Discovered a 60,000-Ton Stone Structure Underwater, and No One Knows Why It Was Built

<https://dailygalaxy.com/2026/03/divers-found-massive-stones-underwater/>

60,000-year-old ostrich eggshells reveal humanity's first brush with geometry

<https://www.jpost.com/archaeology/article-890930>

Spectacular fossil treasure trove pushes back origins of complex animals

<https://phys.org/news/2026-04-spectacular-fossil-treasure-trove-complex.html>

Tasmanian tigers discovered in Indigenous rock art in Australia, suggesting these marsupials lived there much longer than thought

<https://www.livescience.com/archaeology/tasmanian-tigers-discovered-in-indigenous-rock-art-in-australia-suggesting-these-marsupials-lived-there-much-longer-than-thought>

Tracking the footsteps of West Africa's prehistoric metalworkers

<https://phys.org/news/2026-03-tracking-footsteps-west-africa-prehistoric.html>

Homo habilis is the earliest named human. But is it even human?

<https://www.livescience.com/archaeology/human-evolution/homo-habilis-is-the-earliest-named-human-but-is-it-even-human>

History

For the first time in more than 1,400 years, Church of England gets a woman leader

<https://www.npr.org/2026/03/25/nx-s1-5753707/archbishop-canterbury-church-england-sarah-mullally>

At the Legacy Museum, facing America's racist past is a path, not a punishment

<https://www.npr.org/2026/03/25/nx-s1-5753780/bryan-stevenson-montgomery-square-legacy-museum>

Democratic lawmaker asks judge to take Trump's name off Kennedy Center

<https://apnews.com/article/trump-kennedy-center-4f98bf0a7fc64d81c08f507fdadf7aa5>

Argentina's 'Dirty War' still on trial 50 years later

<https://www.dw.com/en/argentinas-dirty-war-still-on-trial-50-years-later/a-76453903>

Notorious police commander dubbed "Prime Evil" testifies at South African hearing on apartheid killings

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/apartheid-police-commander-prime-evil-testifies-south-africa-killings/>

'Stay Alive,' about daily life in Nazi Berlin, shows how easy it is to just go along

https://www.npr.org/2026/04/02/nx-s1-5763755/stay-alive-berlin-ian-buruma-review?utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook.com&utm_term=nprnews&utm_campaign=pr

Samuel Pepys censored his links to slavery, new study reveals

<https://phys.org/news/2026-03-samuel-pepys-censored-links-slavery.html>

Scandinavia's largest 'burial mound' may be a monument to catastrophe, not a king

https://phys.org/news/2026-03-scandinavia-largest-burial-mound-monument.html#google_vignette

Thirty previously unpublished verses by Empedocles discovered on a papyrus from Cairo

<https://phys.org/news/2026-04-previously-unpublished-verses-empedocles-papyrus.html>

Native Americans were making dice, gambling, exploring probability millennia before their Old World counterparts

<https://phys.org/news/2026-03-native-americans-dice-gambling-exploring.html>

New Radiocarbon Dates Push Mohenjo-daro Back to 3300 BC- Rivaling the Earliest Cities of Egypt and Mesopotamia

<https://arkeonews.net/new-radiocarbon-dates-push-mohenjo-daro-back-to-3300-bc-rivaling-the-earliest-cities-of-egypt-and-mesopotamia/>

'The King and I' Spotlights an English Governess Who Modernized Siamese Society. The Real Anna Leonowens Exaggerated Her Influence and Lied About Her Origins

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smithsonian-institution/the-king-and-i-spotlights-an-english-governess-who-modernized-siamese-society-the-real-anna-leonowens-exaggerated-her-influence-and-lied-about-her-origins-180988394/>

Native Nations Fought in the American Revolution to Protect Their Ancestral Lands. After the War, Settlers Seized Their Territory Anyway

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/native-nations-fought-in-the-american-revolution-to-protect-their-ancestral-lands-after-the-war-settlers-seized-their-territory-anyway-180988435/>

Abigail Adams Asked Her Husband to 'Remember the Ladies' as He Drafted America's Laws. Here's What She Really Meant

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/abigail-adams-asked-her-husband-to-remember-the-ladies-as-he-drafted-americas-laws-heres-what-she-really-meant-180988452/>

To Finance Their Lifestyle, a Young French Couple Went to Cambodia to Steal Antiquities. They Did Almost Everything Wrong

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/to-finance-lifestyle-young-french-couple-cambodia-steal-antiquities-they-did-almost-everything-wrong-180988403/>

Archaeology

Damaged church floor may have revealed the grave of the fourth musketeer

<https://arstechnica.com/science/2026/03/archaeologists-may-have-found-the-grave-of-the-legendary-fourth-musketeer/>

A Ghost Ship Was Missing for 139 Years. Then, in Just 2 Hours, Amateur Explorers Found It.

<https://www.popularmechanics.com/science/archaeology/a70810302/ghost-ship-lake-michigan-discovery/>

Scientists discover a 1,200-year-old Fijian island likely built from discarded shellfish remains

https://phys.org/news/2026-04-scientists-year-fijian-island-built.html?fbclid=IwY2xjawQ9eDlleHRuA2FibQlxMQBicmlkETFuWmxMM3pueVVwMHRYSmc1c3J0YwZhcHBfaWQQMjlyMDM5MTc4ODlwMDg5MgABHv1mc6uW_DejmWleNmU3sTRLhfoP5A2xx7y1SGPuYQHEMlcBF2uJhgBC5rl_aem_Z22GnVkg5lwZbU7jwJZjzw

'It has been traumatic': the Cornwall landmark left battered by Storm Goretti

https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2026/apr/03/it-has-been-traumatic-the-cornwall-landmark-left-battered-by-storm-goretti?CMP=fb_gu&utm_medium=Social&utm_source=Facebook&fbclid=IwY2xjawQ9aP9leHRuA2FibQlxMABicmlkETFuWmxMM3pueVVwMHRYSmc1c3J0YwZhcHBfaWQQMjlyMDM5MTc4ODlwMDg5MgABHttaniliPZbWaXarbCeNArvtzij5TAfeAZ6PE_jTtLOYxG2b5HdfzVtCiy9V_aem_AIG4CQcJLjEImugsCimrw#Echobox=1775233296

Shroud of Turin may have Indian origin, DNA analysis suggests

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/science/archaeology/shroud-turin-origin-india-dna-b2949701.html>

The public got one week to comment on Chaco Canyon drilling. It's almost over

https://www.hcn.org/articles/the-public-got-one-week-to-comment-on-chaco-canyon-drilling-its-almost-over/?fbclid=IwY2xjawQ-o-tleHRuA2FibQlxMQBzcnRjBmFwcF9pZBAyMjlyMzcxNzg4MjAwODkyAAEeTYhCgrY9IVxZbvTheWC-v6U3tHIAB8P2Y6rWIUODxHxZzkf1VN4KLzj4Gf8_aem_Lc6Zr7-jmUjzkeX2RH9GNQ

Study reassesses the "Israeli Stonehenge"

<https://www.heritagedaily.com/2026/03/study-reassesses-the-israeli-stonehenge/157503>

How archaeology is preserving evidence of the Yahidne war crime

https://phys.org/news/2026-03-archaeology-evidence-yahidne-war-crime.html#google_vignette

Archaeologists Discover an Intact Cannonball From the Battle of the Alamo—One Day Before the Pivotal Conflict's 190th Anniversary

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/archaeologists-discover-an-intact-cannonball-from-the-battle-of-the-alamo-one-day-before-the-pivotal-conflicts-190th-anniversary-180988402/>

Major underwater discoveries off Karpathos and Kasos

<https://www.heritagedaily.com/2026/03/major-underwater-discoveries-off-karpathos-and-kasos/157633>

What Did Ancient Pompeians Burn as Offerings to Their Gods? New Research Reveals the Surprising Answer

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/what-did-ancient-pompeians-burn-as-offerings-to-their-gods-new-research-reveals-the-surprising-answer-180988467/>

Return to Serpent Mountain

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

Egyptology

One of the first people known to change their gender was an ancient Egyptian pharaoh
<https://www.npr.org/sections/the-picture-show/2026/03/31/g-s1-115791/hatshepsut-one-of-egypts-greatest-pharaohs>

Archaeologists Unearth More Than 40,000 Pieces of Pottery That Ancient Egyptians Used Like Scrap Paper
<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/archaeologists-unerath-more-than-40000-pieces-pottery-that-ancient-egyptians-used-scrap-paper-180988414/>

New Scans Discover Unknown Hidden Structure Beneath Ancient Egyptian City
<https://greekreporter.com/2026/03/30/hidden-structure-ancient-egyptian-city/>

General Science

AI scientists are changing research — institutions, funders and publishers must respond
<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-026-00934-w>

Trump's new science panel includes 9 tech billionaires—and just one scientist
https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/trumps-new-science-panel-includes-9-tech-billionaires-and-just-one-scientist/?utm_campaign=sprinklr&utm_medium=social&utm_source=linkedin&fbclid=IwVERTSAQ1BMNleHRuA2FibQIxMABzcnRjBmFwcF9pZAwzNTA2ODU1MzE3MjgAAR7JD08QxCQFhVsFDfyySWkEZfevf-cV9w5Uilcp3UZY52GWSD1ZQsCNHyxndw_aem_wMDCwFgaT9ck2jFAvmyYrA&sfnsn=mo

Physics, Earth and Space Sciences

NASA announces new Mars mission, reshapes goals on the moon

https://www.cnn.com/2026/03/24/science/nasa-ignition-mars-spacecraft-moon-base?Date=20260324&Profile=CNN&utm_content=1774390463&utm_medium=social&utm_source=linkedin

Chinese lander reveals giant 'cavity' of radiation between Earth and the moon — and it could change how lunar exploration is done

<https://www.livescience.com/space/space-exploration/chinese-lander-reveals-giant-cavity-of-radiation-between-earth-and-the-moon-and-it-could-change-how-lunar-exploration-is-done>

Scientists discover mirror of our solar system in 2 exoplanets forming around a star

<https://www.space.com/astronomy/exoplanets/scientists-discover-mirror-of-our-solar-system-in-2-exoplanets-forming-around-a-star>

Radio signals at the edge of extreme stars come from far beyond their surfaces

https://phys.org/news/2026-03-radio-edge-extreme-stars-surfaces.html#google_vignette

'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>

A mission NASA might kill is still returning fascinating science from Jupiter

<https://arstechnica.com/space/2026/03/a-mission-nasa-might-kill-is-still-returning-fascinating-science-from-jupiter/>

Webb telescope photos show mysterious little red dots. Astronomers don't know what they are

<https://www.cnn.com/2026/03/17/science/little-red-dots-webb-telescope-photos>

Revolutionary Submarine Mysteriously Disappears Without a Trace – Scientists Are Now Preparing for a Bold Return

<https://scitechdaily.com/revolutionary-submarine-mysteriously-disappears-without-a-trace-scientists-are-now-preparing-for-a-bold-return/>

NASA's Artemis 2 astronauts are cruising to the moon. So why are they doing CPR tests today?

<https://www.space.com/space-exploration/artemis/nasas-artemis-2-astronauts-are-cruising-to-the-moon-so-why-are-they-doing-cpr-tests-today>

Big tech's next move is to put data centers in space. Can it work?

<https://www.npr.org/2026/04/03/nx-s1-5718416/ai-data-centers-in-space-spacex-elon-musk>

Success! After key milestone, Artemis II astronauts speed off toward the moon

<https://www.npr.org/2026/04/02/nx-s1-5770599/artemis-ii-10-day-mission-preview>

How did this get made? Giant planet orbits small star

<https://www.eurekalert.org/news-releases/1122699>

Antarctica hides huge caches of gold, silver, copper and iron. As the ice melts, countries may race to harvest them.

<https://www.livescience.com/planet-earth/climate-change/antarctica-hides-huge-caches-of-gold-silver-copper-and-iron-as-the-ice-melts-countries-may-race-to-harvest-them>

A new tweak to Einstein's relativity could transform our understanding of the Big Bang
<https://www.livescience.com/physics-mathematics/a-new-tweak-to-einsteins-relativity-could-transform-our-understanding-of-the-big-bang>

How Artemis II is beaming back stunning video from the moon
<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/nasas-artemis-ii-laser-communications-system-is-beaming-4k-video-from-the/>

Environment, Climate Change and Alternative Energy Sources

How electric vehicles could back up our power system
<https://www.eurekaalert.org/news-releases/1121467>

Biological, Genetics and Medical Sciences

Whale swims to freedom after days stranded on German beach

<https://www.dw.com/en/whale-swims-to-freedom-after-days-stranded-on-german-beach/a-76556301>

Scientists watch sperm whales work as a team to assist a birth

<https://www.npr.org/2026/03/27/nx-s1-5762978/sperm-whale-birth-cooperation-coordination-marine-mammals-science>

The surprising science behind red-light therapy — and how it really works

<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-026-00878-1>

24 new deep-sea species found including a rare new branch of life

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2026/03/260325005912.htm>

Can a mouse be cloned indefinitely? Decades-long experiment has answers

<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-026-00945-7>

RNA-guided CRISPR system activates gene expression

<https://phys.org/news/2026-03-rna-crispr-gene.html>

Scientists Capture Sperm Whales Headbutting in Stunning New Footage

<https://scitechdaily.com/scientists-capture-sperm-whales-headbutting-in-stunning-new-footage/>

A botanist searches for the seeds of the rare Death Valley Sage

<https://www.npr.org/sections/the-picture-show/2026/04/01/nx-s1-5749446/botanist-search-seeds-rare-death-valley-sage>

If these whales go extinct, we'll know who to blame

<https://www.vox.com/climate/484406/god-squad-gulf-mexico-rices-whales-endangered-species>

Few new antibiotics for children, report warns

<https://www.scidev.net/global/news/few-new-antibiotics-for-children-report-warns/>

AI tool targets death data gaps in poor regions

<https://www.scidev.net/global/news/ai-tool-targets-death-data-gaps-in-poor-regions/>

Scientists mapped all the nerves of the clitoris for the first time

<https://www.livescience.com/health/anatomy/scientists-mapped-all-the-nerves-of-the-clitoris-for-the-first-time>

Other

MAGA congressman says Americans would become 'unglued' if they hear the same briefings on aliens he gets

https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/us-politics/alien-ufo-briefings-tim-burchett-b2950992.html?fbclid=IwdGRzaAQ7349jbGNrBDvfTGV4dG4DYWVtAjExAHNydGMGYXBwX2lkDDM1MDY4NTUzMTcyOAABHk7kAerliS1G_JsRYkZnIHxzDo66EITsukFohB_VTIFz6LsL-ij_M-YtFqOk_aem_ApDEPnWzThDNhCjk98bg1w&sfnsn=mo

Matt Gaetz claims military once briefed him on alien breeding program involving humans when he was in office

https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/us-politics/matt-gaetz-alien-human-breeding-program-b2949902.html?fbclid=IwdGRzaAQ7PdhjbGNrBDs9_2V4dG4DYWVtAjExAHNydGMGYXBwX2lkDDM1MDY4NTUzMTcyOAABHioOCicz9Xuy_5xB9scMmt58H7volbrBiwrPseWVCh_Qf5zWUSaB_ZAI5n5ld_aem_c66EUdmZ_kpB5qN-TPI8TA&sfnsn=mo

Additional Informational

Renew Star Trek: Starfleet Academy Petitions:

- UK Petition: https://www.change.org/p/renew-star-trek-starfleet-academy-for-a-third-season?source_location=search
- US Petition: https://www.change.org/p/renew-star-trek-starfleet-academy-for-a-full-season-3?source_location=search

Has Something Changed in the Near-Earth Meteoroid Environment?

<https://www.amsmeteors.org/2026/03/has-something-changed-in-the-near-earth-meteoroid-environment/>

NASA Unveils Initiatives to Achieve America's National Space Policy

<https://www.nasa.gov/news-release/nasa-unveils-initiatives-to-achieve-americas-national-space-policy/>

A rare encounter: How Juice came to observe 3I/ATLAS

https://www.esa.int/Enabling_Support/Operations/A_rare_encounter_How_Juice_came_to_observe_3I_ATLAS

Dogs were widely distributed across western Eurasia during the Palaeolithic

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-026-10170-x>

ARCA's Annual Interdisciplinary Art Crime Conference, June 19-20: Amelia, Italy

<https://www.artcrimeresearch.org/annual-interdisciplinary-art-crime-conference/>

Cultural Heritage Emergencies Summit, Nov 9-10: Washington DC

<https://ncp.si.edu/cultural-heritage-emergencies-summit>

The unseen toll of war on science

https://www.who.edu/oceanus/feature/a-scientific-casualty-of-the-russia-ukraine-war/?fbclid=IwY2xjawQ9eDFleHRuA2FibQIxMABicmlkETFuWmxMM3pueVVwMHRYSmc1c3J0YwZhcHBfaWQQMjlyMDM5MTc4ODIwMDg5MgABHjnQJDIIJfKAGDz6jZMwz5vDB4tds0PbSFTbPLjAR6_0Gnl1vYO3yEOHSbl_aem_32OF2g2vP-OqslWn_EbbA

UCLA researchers uncover buried ancient delta on Mars

<https://physicalsciences.ucla.edu/ucla-researchers-uncover-buried-ancient-delta-on-mars/>

NASA's Artemis II crew are quite the photographers. See what they've snapped so far

https://www.npr.org/sections/the-picture-show/2026/04/03/nx-s1-5773282/artemis-ii-nasa-photos?utm_source=facebook.com&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=npr&utm_term=nprnews&fbclid=IwY2xjawQ9aW1leHRuA2FibQIxMQBicmlkETFuWmxMM3pueVVwMHRYSmc1c3J0YwZhcHBfaWQQMjlyMDM5MTc4ODIwMDg5MgABHm1b7NXmqfqqfZ_3iesF6xaJZz83aYTeMWAqSMvKHxqj7ac4A7xDirDIAqIh_aem_nvmtBsY4JRUBZa-NT3hww

Protect Chaco Canyon Petition

<https://nmwild.org/get-involved/sign-a-petition/protect-chaco-canyon/?emci=16f56c47-412c-f111-9a48-000d3a14b640&emdi=57a6101b-a92e-f111-9a48-000d3a14b640&ceid=6617941>

Emily Katz Anhalt: Ancient Wisdom for Polarized Times Webcast, Apr 29

https://marktwinhouse.org/event/emily-katz-anhalt-ancient-wisdom-for-polarized-times-virtual/?fbclid=IwY2xjawQ9elxleHRuA2FibQIxMABicmlkETFuWmxMM3pueVVwMHRYSmc1c3J0YwZhcHBfaWQQMjlyMDM5MTc4ODIwMDg5MgABHnLHeK4YRLXyinzKAb4TrwtJqhTkoECNGY_Epg2NwrZluTe88jUp7-CugqDNC_aem_pTibxvFjCwrPLPeHnpdThw

A pioneering report by the Thomson Reuters Foundation and UNESCO sheds light on the way 3,000 companies approach AI

<https://www.unesco.org/en/articles/pioneering-report-thomson-reuters-foundation-and-unesco-sheds-light-way-3000-companies-approach-ai>

International Science Council Newsletter

<https://us5.campaign-archive.com/?e=725b365f54&u=2e9b648776114e2888e7ea8c5&id=a45d56afa3>