

## STEMazing NEWS



### **Americans are sleeping less!**

How many hours a night do you sleep? If you are similar to about 1/3 of Americans, then it is six hours or less. This is an increase since 2004. Some of the sleep deprivation comes from the number of media devices that people use like cell phones and tablets—especially in bed. Health professionals do not like this trend as less sleep impacts one's wellbeing. See and read more at: <https://www.sciencenews.org/article/americans-are-sleeping-less-they-were-13-years-ago>

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## Ice Worms!

There are a number of organisms that can survive cold temperatures temporarily. To complete their life cycle, however, they need warmer temperatures. This is not the case for the ice worm. They can live at freezing temperatures for their entire life. In order to keep their metabolism going, the way they manipulate the molecules that transport energy is very different from warm metazoans. See and read more at: [https://asknature.org/strategy/biological-processes-continue-at-glacial-temperatures/#.XCQ\\_NBNKhmA](https://asknature.org/strategy/biological-processes-continue-at-glacial-temperatures/#.XCQ_NBNKhmA)

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### Marsupial Lion!

Lion? Not really. Fossils of complete skeletons of an ancient 220-pound marsupial has been found in a cave in Australia. The animal had incisors rather than canines to munch on prey, grasping front feet, and a tail similar to a kangaroo. Paleontologists believe this animal was the top of the food chain and a terror to anything that crossed its path. See and read more at: <https://www.livescience.com/64289-marsupial-lion-anatomy.html>



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### 3D Print Pianist!

Many robot appendages attempt to replicate the human muscles and tendons. The human hand is amazingly complex and difficult to replicate. Most current designs require a great deal of complexity and energy. What is different about this 3D robotic hand is that the scientists made it purposely simple—conserving parts and energy. Only the wrist moves allowing the fingers to touch the right keys. See and read more at: <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/12/181220163200.htm>



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### **It's the Bee's Knees!**

Drones are great, but they have limited amount of time they can be up in the air before they have to be recharged. Wait! Bumblebees fly around all day. Maybe they can be our drones! That is exactly what technologists and scientists have been attempting to do by gluing tiny batteries, sensors and communications circuitry backpacks on bumblebees. Antennas locate the bees while they collect pollen and track their behavior. When they return to their hives the batteries are wireless recharged for the next day of spying.

See and read more at:

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/12/181212134435.htm>



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