

STEMtacular NEWS



SEA WORM!

Divers in New Zealand recently observed a 26-foot long feather boa—a fantastic colony of creatures called tunicates. These tiny, primitive creatures have a spinal cord. This makes them related to vertebrates and you and me! See and read more at <https://www.livescience.com/64112-feather-boa-sea-creature-video.html>

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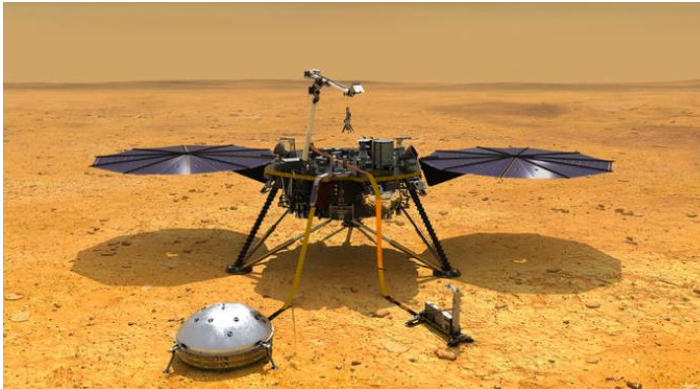
NURSING SPIDER!

Researchers in China have discovered that a kind of spider that mimics ants also feed their young with a protein-rich milk. Experimenters have shown that that young spiders depend on this feeding and will die without their mother's milk. It isn't unusual that parents feed their young, but it was once believed that only mammals provide milk to their young. Read and see more at: <https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2018/11/spider-moms-spotted-nursing-their-offspring-milk>

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MARS LANDING!

NASA reported that the latest Mars mission has landed successfully. The first pictures are hazy and have dots as a result of dust on the camera on the lander. NASA scientist hope to discover new information about the red planet soon! Read and see more at: <https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2018/11/nasa-lander-will-plunge-mars-today-harrowing-6-minute-descent>

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TURTLEOSEROUS!

Imagine combining a giant turtle with a rhino. A fossil creature with that description was discovered in Poland in the same geologic layers as when dinosaurs ruled. Very unlike dinosaurs, the Turtleoserosus was a mammal relative. Paleontologists used to think that when dinosaurs reigned, mammals were small and insignificant. Evidently not! Read and see more at: <https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2018/11/giant-time-dinosaurs-ancient-mammal-cousin-looked-cross-between-rhino-and-turtle>



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No Moving Parts!

Ion drives are propulsion systems--Pushing air molecules with electrostatic forces seems like something from science fiction. Yet, the first airplane has launched using that very idea. No propellers, engines, or moving parts. Welcome to the future! Read and see more at: <https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2018/11/airplane-no-moving-parts-takes-flight>



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