



NASA launches atomic clock!

NASA is set to launch one of the most precise clocks in the universe to change the way we navigate in deep space, including future human missions to the Moon, Mars and beyond. NASA's atomic clock is about the size of a toaster and will operate for a year in space. It is ready to be launched aboard a SpaceX Heavy Falcon rocket on June 22nd. The Jet Propulsion Laboratory explained that the deep space atomic clock on a spacecraft would allow it to receive a signal from Earth and determine its location immediately using an onboard navigation system. It said the atomic clock must be incredibly precise to be used for this kind of navigation. "A clock that is off by even a single second could mean the difference between landing on Mars and missing it by miles. In ground tests, the deep space atomic clock proved to be up to 50 times more stable than atomic clocks on GPS satellites," it said.



Pictured: Image of the launch of the first flight of SpaceX's Falcon Heavy rocket.

Man opens safe locked for 40 years on first try!



Pictured: A typical locked safe.

A Canadian man has cracked the code of a safe that's been locked in a museum for around 40 years, on his first try, with a lucky guess. Noticing the dial numbers ran from 0 to 60, he decided to try 20-40-60 and it worked! Museum staff and visitors had been trying to crack the code for years, even bringing in experts to help. The safe which was originally bought in 1907, belonged to Vermillion's Brunswick Hotel, it had been locked since the late 1970s. The 907kg iron box was donated to the museum in 1992 when the hotel was renovated.

Disappointingly the safe contained only an old pay sheet and part of a restaurant order pad from the late '70s, which included a receipt for a mushroom burger costing 59p.



Fish and shrimps as underwater spies?



Pictured: A typical Goliath grouper.

A project from the US Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) aims to improve military intelligence by using a range of aquatic creatures (large fish to single-celled organisms) as underwater warning systems. Alison Laferriere from Raytheon BBN Technologies says using marine creatures as sensors is low cost and efficient. Living creatures react in various ways to the presence of vehicles and researchers believe this could be used to track the movements of submarines and underwater drones. Goliath groupers make a booming noise when approached, bioluminescent marine creatures glow when disturbed, black sea bass dive to the bottom of the sea when spooked by a loud noise and snapping shrimp make a constant clacking noise that could be used like a sonar signal.

The children's city designed by school pupils!

A shrunken-down version of a real-life city for children has opened its doors to the public. MiniBrum is based at Birmingham's Thinktank Science Museum and is the result of a £2.1m, four-year project. More than 800 children helped create the attraction. This exciting, interactive child-sized world features famous Birmingham landmarks, such as canals, Selfridges and the Old Joe Clock Tower. The great initiative also includes a racetrack inspired by Birmingham's upcoming Commonwealth Games, a construction zone with a climbing tower and a slide, as well as a Post Office and a salon.

Thinktank manager Lauren Deere said "Children are at the forefront of the design process. Their involvement helped us see everything from a child's perspective, which makes MiniBrum a truly unique space."



Pictured: Images of MiniBrum from the Millennium Point Twitter page.

/ think...



YOUR COMMENTS

Email: help@picture-news.co.uk

Tweet: @HelpPicture

or post to: Unit 3, Phoenix Business Park, Ripon, North Yorks, HG4 1NS