



## Police tackle plastic crocodile in Devon

Police, who were called to reports of a crocodile lurking in a pond, were relieved to discover it was a plastic toy submerged in the water. Officers received a call from a dog walker, who thought they saw a real-life crocodile in a public pond near a popular footpath in Kingsbridge, Devon. Police went to investigate and were shocked when they saw the head of the reptile sticking out the water. But on closer investigation, the officers from Devon and Cornwall Police realised the crocodile was actually made from plastic. The sighting was first reported on the Spotted Kingsbridge Facebook page with a local resident saying: "Little crocodile seen at Woodleigh whilst walking the dogs."



*Pictured: Police Dog Harry with a plastic crocodile taken from the Devon Dog Handlers Twitter page.*

## Ideas to explore moon caves?



*Pictured: An image of a lunar cave from the ESA Twitter page.*

The Moon's surface has been well-documented by several satellite missions, but how would you design a system to detect, map and explore under the surface of the Moon, specifically lunar caves? This is the question the European Space Agency (ESA) are asking budding space experts. The ESA is keen to hear from those who think they could design a system capable of supporting such an expedition, which it says could identify areas on the surface that may eventually be suitable places to build bases of operation for astronauts. The ideal home for lunar bases could be the former site of lava tubes, where molten rock once flowed under the surface.

*Do you have any ideas about exploring moon caves?*



## Underwater robot used to track sharks



*Pictured: REMUS Sharkcam in action on a different project taken from the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institutions Twitter page.*

Researchers used an underwater robot to better understand basking sharks in Scotland. The information gathered will be used to see whether the area should become the world's first marine protected area for the animals. This is the first time the autonomous, underwater robot, REMUS Sharkcam has been used in UK waters. It tracked the basking sharks and transmitted video of them and data back to scientists on the surface. Dr Matthew Witt, from the University of Exeter, explained what they are hoping to learn, "For several years, we've been gathering information about how they move, where they go. But we've never really understood whether they find mates, whether they are eating and how they might socialise with other individuals."

## New hope for northern white rhino

There are only two northern white rhinos left in the world, both female and unable to carry a baby. A team of vets have managed to harvest 10 eggs from the two surviving rhinos, a mother and a daughter called Najin and Fatu, who live under 24-hour armed guard at Ol Pejeta in central Kenya. Scientists hope to fertilise the eggs using frozen sperm from the last male of the species, Sudan, who died of old age in 2018. A southern white rhino would then be a surrogate and carry the baby. Experts are hopeful that this could save the species!



*Pictured: The last two northern white rhinos, Najin and Fatu taken from the Ol Pejeta Conservancy Twitter page.*

/ think...



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