



Robotic birds with realistic flight

Engineering company Festo, has created a flock of robotic birds that are capable of amazingly realistic flight. The German company released a video showing the BionicSwift slowly start to move its wings, then take flight from a man's hand. They can flutter through the air, gliding and even directing themselves thanks to a radio system. The next generation robot can fly indoors along a programmed path for only seven minutes as it has a small battery. The birds fly with such a realistic motion thanks to the ultra-light artificial feathers and soft plates covering their bodies. They weigh just 42 grams each. When the BionicSwift robots rise in the air, these lightweight plates bunch up to provide the lift. When the robot birds descend, the plates fan out to allow them to glide gracefully, or to make sharp turns and fly in loops.



Pictured: The BionicSwift in flight taken from the Festo Twitter page.

Smell out of this world



Pictured: Perfume being sprayed. Source: Felipe Ernesto.

A new Kickstarter campaign has been launched to sell the smell of space to the public. Eau de Space is an aroma recreated by NASA years ago to help astronauts during space training. NASA's goal of simulating space as accurately as possible during training is to eliminate any surprises astronauts might experience in Outer Space. Astronauts have reported that the space they sniffed in the airlock of an orbiting vehicle smelled like gunpowder, seared steak, raspberries and rum. Expert perfumers and chemist Steve Pearce, who developed the original scent for NASA in 2008, were recruited to make the perfume. For every bottle sold another will be given to a school with a Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM) program, to inspire pupils to study these subjects, and to become future astronauts, scientists, and engineers.



Exotic frog found in bananas at Asda

An exotic frog was found in a bunch of bananas in Wales after a 5,000-mile trip. Asda staff in Llanelli spotted a thumb-sized amphibian among bunches of bananas. It is believed that the frog came all the way from Colombia, the UK's biggest supplier of bananas. "Asda' the frog, named after the shop he was found in, is now being cared for by specialists at Silent World To You in Pembrokeshire. The animal centre say he is safe and well and has been feasting on crickets and flies. RSPCA inspector, Gemma Cooper, said, "Frogs and other amphibians are so good at shutting down their bodies when they need to. It seems highly likely that's exactly what this frog did to survive this long journey without food."



Pictured: A Four-lined Tree Frog (Polypedates leucomystax). Source: Pavel Kirillov.

Your thoughts on the news...

We have statues to remember certain people because they have sometimes changed our way of life and need remembering for their bravery. We also have statues to decorate places.

Emily - Age 10



I think it is important to have statues so we can remember great things other people have done so we can be inspired and try to do what they did to make the world a better place.

Freya - Age 8

Statues are for remembering famous people.

Aakash Das Gupta - Age 8

What was your opinion on this week's news? Visit our discussion area, found here:

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss to share your thoughts!

I think statues are put up to represent the people who have fought for what they think is right.

Lily - Age 10

/ think...



YOUR COMMENTS

Share your thoughts on our online discussion board:
www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

Email: help@picture-news.co.uk Tweet: @HelpPicture
or post to: Unit 3, Phoenix Business Park, Ripon, North Yorks, HG4 1NS