

Knowledge daily

29-09-21

WHAT WE NEED IS NOT THE WILL TO BELIEVE,
BUT THE WISH TO FIND OUT.
-WILLIAM WORDSWORTH



NASA launches latest satellite in the Landsat programme

Landsat programme

On 27 September, NASA launched Earth observation satellite Landsat-9. They launched it on an Atlas V 401 rocket, from Vandenberg Space Force Base in the US.

Landsat-9 is the latest satellite in the Landsat programme. This is a joint programme of NASA and the USGS (United States Geological Survey).

What is the Landsat programme?

The Landsat programme is the world's longest-running programme that captures satellite

imagery of Earth. The first satellite in the programme launched in 23 July 1972.

Since 1972, NASA and USGS have launched eight Landsat satellites (including Landsat-9). In between, Landsat-6 failed during its launch. Now, Landsat-9 will work together with Landsat-8. And the two satellites will collect images spanning the entire planet every eight days.

Landsat-9 is carrying two instruments, the Operational Land Imager 2 (OLI-2) and the Thermal Infrared Sensor 2 (TIRS-2). They will measure 11 wavelengths of light reflected or radiated off Earth's surface.

The Landsat programme

Since 1972, Landsat satellites have collected more than 9 million scenes and helped provide data for more than 18,000 research papers.

The Landsat programme has observed Earth, recording its changes – the growth of the cities, and the changing shapes of coasts, forests, deserts and glaciers.

Moreover, we have also used it to observe wildlife. They include wildebeest and wombats to woodpeckers and walrus.

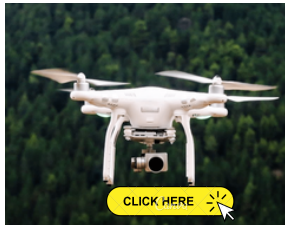
Angry bird attacks food delivery drone. What is a drone?

A drone is a type of aircraft that does not have a pilot and is controlled by someone on the ground. Today, drones have become very popular. They are used to carry weapons, deliver things and even in food delivery. But perhaps, it's not popular with everyone. Recently, a video captured an unusual incident – it shows a raven bird attacking a food delivery drone! A raven is a bird similar to a crow.

Angry bird attacks food delivery drone

A man named Ben Roberts took the video in Canberra, the capital city of Australia. The drone was flying in the air, carrying food. It belonged to a food delivery company. But a raven saw the food delivery drone and started attacking it angrily. This made the drone drop the food. Ben had been waiting for his food delivery and recorded the whole incident. It seems there were more such bird attacks on drones in the city. And the food delivery company had to temporarily stop its operation.

Why did the bird attack the drone?
Experts said that some birds can attack moving objects when they have babies to protect.



DID YOU KNOW ?

- Sea sponges have no heads, eyes, tails, or mouths, and they live most of their lives rooted in one spot.
- Google is considered to be one of the Big Five companies in the American information technology industry, along with Amazon, Facebook, Apple, and Microsoft.

William Wordsworth

English poet

William Wordsworth was an English Romantic poet who, with Samuel Taylor Coleridge, helped to launch the Romantic Age in English literature with their joint publication *Lyrical Ballads*.



"I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud" (also commonly known as "Daffodils") is a lyric poem by William Wordsworth. It is one of the most popular poems of Wordsworth. The poem was inspired by an event on 15 April 1802 in which Wordsworth and his sister Dorothy came across a "long belt" of daffodils while wandering in the forest

Daffodils

by William Wordsworth

I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the milky way,
They stretched in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay:
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced, but they
Out-did the sparkling waves in glee:
A poet could not be but gay,
In such a jocund company:
I gazed—and gazed—but little thought
What wealth the show to me had brought:

For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.



Science News

Mars habitability limited by its small size, isotope study suggests

Date: September 20, 2021. Source: Washington University in St. Louis *Summary:* Researchers measured the potassium isotope compositions of Martian meteorites in order to estimate the presence, distribution, and abundance of volatile elements and compounds, including water, on Mars, finding that Mars has lost more potassium than Earth but retained more potassium than the moon or the asteroid 4-Vesta; the results suggest that rocky planets with larger mass retain more volatile elements during planetary formation and that Mars and Mars-sized exoplanets fall below a size threshold necessary to retain enough water to enable habitability and plate tectonics.

WORD OF THE DAY

Today's Word of the Day is "omnipotent" and its adjective meaning (of a deity) having unlimited power.

Pronunciation ɒm'nɪpət(ə)nt/

Usage: "God is described as omnipotent and benevolent"

Origin

Middle English (as a divine attribute): via Old French from Latin omnipotent- 'all-powerful'.

Synonyms :

all-powerful, almighty, supreme, most high, pre-eminent dictatorial, despotic, totalitarian, autocratic, autarchic invincible, unconquerable

Hindi Meaning

OMNIPOTENT= सर्वशक्तिमान [pr. {sarvashaktiman}](Adjective)
उदाहरण : वही परम सत्य सर्वशक्तिमान और सर्वज्ञ है।

ENGLISH CLUB

Phrasal Verb-make up

Meaning: If you make up with someone, you become friends again after having an argument or a disagreement with them.

Usage: Are you and your brother still angry at one another because of that fight you had, or did you make up?

Today's Idiom

in the lap of the gods

Meaning: out of one's own hands

Usage: I handed in my application for the job, and now it is in the lap of the gods.

Saying of the Day

Once bitten, twice shy

Possible interpretation:

If an animal (such as a dog) bites you one time, you will be extra careful the next time. This saying talks about learning from our mistakes.

Note: once (adverb) = one time | twice (adverb) = two times | shy (adj.) = reserved; timid; reluctant | Also: "Once bit, twice shy" and "Once burned, twice shy"