



ON OUR MINDS

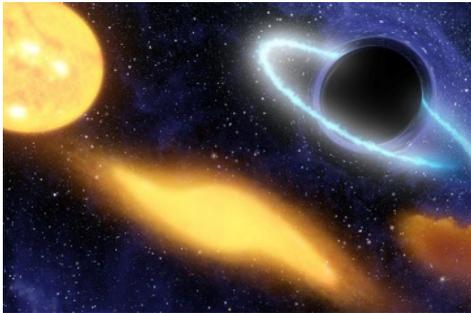


Is the DNA between genes really junk?



How do you unlock a phone?

TODAY'S MIND-BLOWER



What if a black hole formed near our solar system?

Black holes have serious pull, and they're not afraid to use it. Could one of these skulking bad boys ever arise in our home, sweet (solar system) home?

BRAIN CANDY



Are you ready for Chinese New Year?



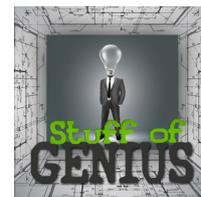
Oops! Great Mechanical Recalls

STUFF YOU SHOULD WATCH



See Stuff You Should Know - videos, podcasts & more!

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MOST POPULAR

- QUIZZES
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- GALLERIES
- VIDEOS
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SCIENCE

How can whale vomit help me retire?

If you're wandering through a thrift store and happen upon a large mass of some sort of waxy substance, take a closer look. It could be the rare "floating gold" of the sea: whale vomit. Find out how cetacean upchuck can help you retire.



SCIENCE

Will we ever unite quantum mechanics with general relativity?

Einstein showed us a mind-blowing way the universe works, while Max Planck and his gang showed us how particles on the atomic and subatomic levels work. But one doesn't explain the other. So there must be a larger theory encompassing them ... or not?



SCIENCE

10 Crazy Uses for Completely Frictionless Surfaces

Just imagine the possibilities: a world free of gum walls and full of bartenders speeding drinks along the bar. But that's really just the tip of the (super-slick) iceberg.



MONEY

On the Money: Test Your Knowledge on the World's Craziest Currencies

Humans have assigned value to all kinds of things through the ages, from stones to spices. There's even money made for potential encounters with alien life. How much is the intergalactic value of a Space Quid? The answer may surprise you!



SCIENCE

10 Complete Falsehoods about Food

Don't eat after 7 p.m. Drink eight glasses of water each day. Organic food is better for you. Watch as we explode these and other well-worn food myths.



SCIENCE

What's the difference between a semi-automatic weapon and a machine gun?

The term "semi-automatic weapon" is used in the U.S. media often. But what does it really mean? Is it just another term for a machine gun?



SCIENCE

Top 10 Myths About the Brain

You only use 10 percent of that big, wrinkled mass of smarts -- unless you listen to Mozart. At least, that's what we've heard about the brain. But how many common brain beliefs are just plain wrong?



SCIENCE

10 Awesome New Inventions You'll Never Hear About

Despite all the Slinkies, Band-Aids and BIC pens out there, many patented inventions that push the boundaries of innovation will likely never see widespread use, like this car that's grown organically and emits pure oxygen.



MONEY

How to Make a Million Dollars

The Economist reported there were 10 million millionaires in the world in 2011 -- a record



number. Want to be one, too? Researchers have found quite a few common traits that most millionaires possess.



**ELECTRONICS**  
**Real Tech or 'Star Trek'?**

Which of the imagined 23rd-century gadgets from the original "Star Trek" and its movie and TV sequels remain futuristic, and which technologies have already been invented? Try our quiz.



**PEOPLE**  
**10 Far-out Charismatic Leaders (and the Trouble They Caused)**

Throughout history, charismatic leaders have emerged and changed the world -- for better or for worse.



**SCIENCE**  
**10 Misconceptions About the Flu**

Lots of Americans believe that getting the flu is no worse than getting a cold. Or that the flu vaccine can give them flu. We separate truth from fiction.



**COMPUTER**  
**Popular Web Site Pictures**

Yeah, yeah, you're the king of the Interwebs, but we bet you aren't familiar with all of the sites that made our gallery. Or are you? Only one way to find out.



**SCIENCE**  
**Is there a psychological reason for people being mean on the Internet?**

We've all seen "flame wars" on the Internet. Maybe we've been the victims or the perpetrators, too. But what causes people to say things online that they would never say in person?



**SCIENCE**  
**10 Innovations in Winemaking**

People have been making (and drinking) wine for 8,000 years -- which means lots of innovations both now and in the past, from creating Champagne to quirky wine labels.



**SCIENCE**  
**What is water boarding?**

Water boarding has hit the headlines again, thanks to the buzz surrounding "Zero Dark Thirty," Kathryn Bigelow's Oscar-nominated historical drama. What does the controversial interrogation technique entail?



**MONEY**  
**10 Ways to Make Money on the Side**

With the exception of winning the lottery, making serious money takes time and effort. But there are legitimate ways to make extra cash to supplement your day job income. Check out 10 ways you can moonlight and end up with some dough to show for it.



**SCIENCE**  
**What if the Earth stopped spinning?**

You can say goodbye to the seven continents and hello to days that seem infernally long. What else awaits you on a spin-free Earth?



**SCIENCE**  
**Can you store solar energy in rust and water?**

Sometimes the ideas get a little crazy in the race to find clean and inexpensive energy, like tying solar energy to hydrogen production in a palm-sized device. And sometimes those crazy ideas actually work.



**SCIENCE**  
**What if we ended war?**

Would we stick flowers in our hair and dance in the street? Or twiddle our thumbs and wonder what to do with all that new free time? Join us as we ponder a world without war.



**COMPUTER**  
**How much do you know about Chrome?**

The Google Chrome Web browser is full of fun and useful features. How much do you know about Chrome? Surf through this quiz to find out!



**MONEY**  
**10 Most Expensive Presidential Perks**

The U.S. president rakes in a salary of \$400,000 and lives in a 132-room mansion. With a full-time pastry chef and private cinema at his or her disposal, the leader of the free world wants for nothing. Which of the perks are the priciest?



**COMPUTER**  
**What's inside my computer?**

Ever wonder why your computer works the way it does? We did, too. So we took one apart to see what all of it does. So what's inside a computer?



**MONEY**  
**Why would the U.S. mint a trillion-dollar coin?**

The idea of minting a trillion-dollar coin to pay the U.S. national debt seemed intriguing, if far-fetched. Though it was nixed by the Fed and the Treasury, could it have worked -- and why?



**STUFF IN PICTURES**



Top Selling Electronics

**TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE** [more quizzes >>](#)



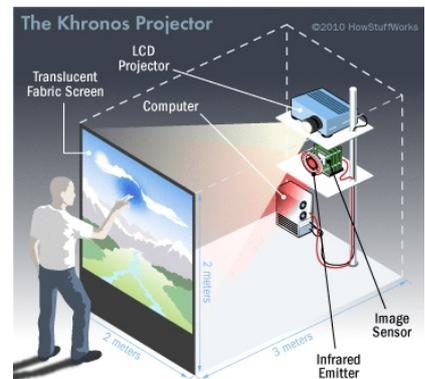
**TAKE THE CHALLENGE**  
**The Most Embarrassing Moments in the History of Science**

Average: 0 points | 20 Questions

What is the name of the protoscience where philosophy, science, occultism and theology come together to turn lead into gold?

- alchemy
- biophysics
- petrology

**STUFF ... ILLUSTRATED**



from **How will humans interface with computers in the future?**

**QUOTESTUFF AND FACTSTUFF**

**factstuff** Did you know: Internet trolls get their names not from the monsters of folk tales, but from a fishing technique that involves dragging a line through an area known to be teeming with fish, hoping for a bite. **Another random fact**

**quotesstuff** "If liberty means anything at all it means the right to tell people what they do not want to hear." **Who said it?**



**PEOPLE**

**Was It a Flop or a Hit?**

If you're an average American, you spend about four hours watching TV daily, which works out to 13 years in the course of a typical lifetime. Test your knowledge of TV hits and flops with our quiz.



**SCIENCE**

**10 Evil Robots Bent on Destroying Humanity**

"Hahaha ... we've come to destroy your world!" Or so it must read in the chapter of the "Evil Robot Handbook" on what to say when you first encounter humans. Here are 10 robots you really don't want to mess with.

**POLL: WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

Are you good at driving in snow?

- I'm a pro.
- I manage.
- I'm not great.
- I'm afraid to even try.

submit

**PUZZLES**

Adventure Science  
Geography Business & Money

**ALL ABOUT UNDER THE HOOD**

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