



We are one step nearer to the return of the woolly mammoths.

Description

Editorial Note: A previous version of this article was published in the Wonder Theory, a science newsletter by CNN. Feel free to subscribe to the newsletter for free updates.

Source: CNN

Evidence of past life on our planet is ubiquitously present in our surroundings. Soil and rocks serve as historical archives that narrate the history of our planet through various geological eras. Fascinating evidences include the oldest fossil forest, which grew approximately 390 million years ago, showcasing an entirely different biological world from our own.

Complementing the story told by fossil forests, individual fossils provide a perspective of the rich diversity that has graced the earth and subsequently vanished. A poignant example is the graves uncovered from past epochs serve as windows into the lives of humans who endured hardships beyond our imaginations in the bygone centuries.

Life on Earth is a tale of inevitable change, and our epoch is but one chapter of this perpetual dynamic story. So much so that scientists too struggle to concur if we have turned over a new page in Earth's geological book.

Although reviving extinct lifeforms might sound like science fiction, significant advancements in scientific trials hold the potential to materialize this impossibility in the foreseeable future.

The Titan of the Mammoths, resembling its extinct counterpart, stands as a testament to these diligent efforts. Boosted by a ground-breaking biotechnological boost, an ambitious Dallas-based company, Colossal Biosciences, managed to genetically modify cells from an Asian elephant - the mammoth's closest living relative. The goal? To engineer a mammoth or elephant hybrid furnished to survive in the Arctic with its robust woolly coat.

The resurrection of these mammoths, the company believes, could potentially help reinstate the vulnerable Arctic tundra, currently under threat due to global warming.

In the meanwhile, the James Webb Space Telescope has been busy exploring galaxies mired in adolescent darkness of some 700 million years. The recent discovery of a 'dead galaxy' sheds light on a rather peculiar phenomenon of galaxies being prematurely deprived of gas necessary to form stars.

The unending quest of discovering our past has also unearthed an 8600-year-old bread sample, pushing back the dawn of 'baker age' humans to 6600 BC. Simultaneously, the humble Camembert cheese is now on the verge of extinction due to the dwindling population of the fungus used in its formation.



Our saga with birds began some 120 million years ago when these feathered creatures once boasted rows of intimidating teeth! Fast forward to the present, and the discovery of an ancient toothless bird species, fondly named 'Attenborough's strange bird,' challenges our understanding of avian evolution.

Are you intrigued by what you've read? There's a lot more to explore in the world of science and space. Subscribe to the Wonder Theory and stay tuned with updates brought by Ashley Strickland and Katie Hunt.

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Vocabulary List:

1. **Ubiquitously** // (adverb): Existing or being everywhere at the same time constantly encountered.
2. **Archives** // (noun): A collection of historical documents or records providing information about a place, institution, or group of people.
3. **Epoch** // (noun): A particular period of time marked by distinctive features or events.
4. **Concur** // (verb): To agree or be of the same opinion.
5. **Biotechnological** // (adjective): Related to the use of biological processes and organisms in technology.
6. **Vulnerable** // (adjective): Susceptible to physical or emotional attack or harm.



Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What is the process of converting an asset into money or legal tender?
Option: Synchronization
Option: Monetization
Option: Optimization
Option: Utilization
2. Which term refers to a state of low spirits caused by loss of hope or courage?
Option: Despondence
Option: Elation
Option: Contentment
Option: Vivacity
3. What term describes a system or process that allows two or more entities to communicate or work together?
Option: Static
Option: Dormant
Option: Interactive
Option: Isolated
4. Which term refers to the way in which something is regarded understood or interpreted?
Option: Inspection
Option: Perception
Option: Assumption
Option: Conception
5. What term is used to describe something that is widely recognized and well-established?
Option: Ordinary
Option: Iconic
Option: Obscure
Option: Insignificant
6. Which term relates to the use of living organisms cells or biological processes in technology engineering medicine etc.?



- Option: Biotechnological
- Option: Mechanical
- Option: Chemical
- Option: Digital

7. Which word means to take great pleasure or delight in something?

- Option: Despised
- Option: Reveled
- Option: Bored
- Option: Ignored

8. Which term describes the gradual development of something into a more complex or advanced state?

- Option: Regression
- Option: Evolution
- Option: Stagnation
- Option: Disintegration

9. What term is used to describe a long and eventful or adventurous journey?

- Option: Excursion
- Option: Odyssey
- Option: Stroll
- Option: Commute

10. Which term describes doing something with keen interest or enthusiasm?

- Option: Reluctantly
- Option: Lazily
- Option: Casually
- Option: Eagerly

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

- 11. Scientists use specific tools and methods to _____ data and measurements.
- 12. The company announced plans for global _____ in the coming year.
- 13. In a connected world social media is _____ present in everyday life.
- 14. The discovery of electricity marked a new _____ in human history.
- 15. The strict rules and regulations imposed a sense of _____ on the employees.
- 16. Experiencing a feeling of _____ made him believe he had been in that exact situation



before.

17. Looking at old photographs often evokes feelings of _____ for the good old days.
18. The new technology represents a shift in the _____ of how tasks are performed.
19. The coach was pleased to see the players so _____ about the upcoming match.
20. People living in coastal areas are often more _____ to the effects of hurricanes.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. The organization promotes an work environment where diversity is valued.
22. Some clubs have a reputation for being and only admitting certain types of members.
23. The protests were fueled by the widespread _____ among the population.
24. The new medical research represents a significant _____ in the treatment of the disease.
25. The tension in the room was so thick it was almost _____.
26. The answer to the mystery remained despite hours of investigation.
27. The shift to remote work has caused a change in how businesses operate.
28. She solved the problem using a method no one had considered before.
29. The puppies were so _____ that everyone wanted to take them home.
30. I _____ with your assessment of the situation; we need to act quickly.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Monetization 2. Despondence 3. Interactive 4. Perception 5. Iconic 6. Biotechnological 7. Reveled 8. Evolution 9. Odyssey 10. Eagerly

Gap-Fill: 11. Quantify 12. Expansion 13. Ubiquitously 14. Epoch 15. Rigidity 16. Deja vu 17. Nostalgia 18. Paradigm 19. Enthusiastic 20. Vulnerable

Matching sentence: 1. Inclusive 2. Exclusionary 3. Discontent 4. Breakthrough 5. Palpable 6. Elusive 7. Paradigm 8. Ingeniously 9. Adorable 10. Concur



CATEGORY

1. Sci/Tech - LEVEL5

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