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Heavyweight galaxies in the young universe

New observations of full-grown galaxies in the young universe may force astrophysicists to revise their leading theory of galaxy formation, at least as it applies to regions where galaxies congregate into clusters. (p. 5)

Autism immerses 2-year-olds in a synchronized world

By age 2, kids with autism focus on synchronized physical events, such as a person's moving lips accompanied by sounds, rather than on eye movements and other social cues, a new study suggests. (p. 8)

Hobbit brain small, but organized for complex intelligence

Evolution may have endowed a controversial species with small but humanlike brains equipped to support advanced thinking (p. 9)

Chimps ambidextrous when digging wells

A survey of water-collection holes dug on the banks of an African river by wild chimpanzees indicates that, unlike people, these apes don't have a preference for using either the right or left hand on manual tasks. (p. 9)

Male circumcision fends off the most common STDs

Male circumcision prevents some genital herpes and human papillomavirus infections, a study in Ugandan adolescent boys and men shows. (p. 10)

How herpes re-rears its ugly head

Researchers identify a key player in the reactivation of herpes simplex virus type 1. (p. 10)

Cells renew in the human heart

Carbon 14 from Cold War—era nuclear bomb tests allowed researchers to track cell birth. (p. 11)

Parasites hinder immunity against cholera

Harboring intestinal parasites seems to limit a person's ability to fend off cholera, a new study conducted in Bangladesh shows. (p. 11)

Prions are common, at least in yeast

A new study of shape-shifting proteins in baker's yeast reveals that prions are common and may help organisms survive in changing conditions. (p. 11)

HPV screen beats Pap smear

A test for human papillomavirus outperforms the standard Pap smear in catching precancerous cervical lesions, a study of women age 30 and over shows. (p. 11)

Spin control for technology

Long-lived helix offers a new way to keep electron spin stable and in sync (p. 12)

Viruses could power devices

Viruses — the biological kind — could be used to construct more efficient, environmentally friendly lithium ion batteries (p. 12)

Ice cubes in space

Planetary scientists have determined the composition and orbits of two moons at the fringes of the solar system, finding that the bodies were created when an impactor struck the dwarf planet that they now orbit. (p. 13)

Asteroid tracked from space to Earth

For the first time, researchers followed an asteroid from space to its crash into Earth, providing the opportunity to study an asteroid in a new way. (p. 13)

Genes help monarchs migrate

At least 40 genes help monarch butterflies find their way to overwintering sites in Mexico. (p. 14)

Louse-y genome surprise

Blood-sucking body lice have an odd arrangement of mitochondrial genes. (p. 14)

Chicks do arithmetic

Using the natural inclination of young chickens to cluster in large groups, researchers show that the birds are hatched with a numerical sense. (p. 15)

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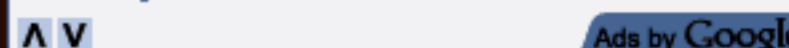
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