

# ***SCIENCE NEWS***

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- Autism-related disorders share genetic activity patterns.
- 8 Life.**
- Silk-shod tarantulas.
  - Dogs use physics to drink, too.
  - Zombie ants chomp at noon.
  - Microbe mats provided an oxygen mask for early animals.
- 10 Body & Brain.**
- Meningitis rates fall.
  - Brain can recover after pain.
- 11 Matter & Energy.**
- Male gators make fancy waves.
  - Brains link sound to touch.
- 12 Earth.**
- Rogue waves tamed in a tub.
  - Hail to aerial microbes.
- 14 Atom & Cosmos.**
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  - Mapping the universe, in 3-D.
- 16 Humans.**
- Innate geometry, QED.
  - Kids defend ownership rights.
  - Ladies like partner look-alikes.
  - Om-ing improves vision.

- Depths of sadness exceed heights of happiness.

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### **Genes & Cells.**

- Bacterial infection could beget Parkinson's.
- Atmosphere's CO<sub>2</sub> rise may harm soil microbes.
- Cell phones mess with body's bugs.

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### **Good-bye Shuttle.**

COVER STORY: During its 30-year run, the space shuttle — designed as a cheap way to get people to space — has returned some cool science.

*Alexandra Witze.*

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### **Counterfeit Crackdown.**

Scientists have devised sophisticated tools to help crime fighters spot fake medications, a growing problem in both the developing and developed worlds.

*Rachel Ehrenberg.*

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### **Inside Job.**

The human body is teeming with microbes that can be their host's best friends — or worst enemies.

*Tina Hesman Saey.*

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### **From the Archive**

Scientists discovered in the 1970s that chloroflourocarbons such as Freon were hurting Earth's ozone layer.

## **COVER**

NASA's space shuttle *Atlantis* shown before a 2009 launch, will be the last orbiter to fly before the agency shuts down the shuttle program.

*Bill Ingalls/ NASA.*