WebWatch

Sing a Song of Science

The link between memory and music is strong; just ask anyone trying to get an old commercial jingle out of his head. And there's no denying that most of us learned our ABC's by singing them to the tune of "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star." The Science Songwriters' Association captures this connection and presents songs that assist in learning more complex and technical subjects including chemistry, biochemistry, natural history, and astrophysics. Their interesting web site, which features lists of songwriters and their albums—as well as MP3s, videos, and lyrics—provides a resource for burgeoning scientists and audiophiles alike. Indeed, it's hard to imagine a more fun way to learn astronomy than by listening to the Big Bang Band.

[<http://faculty.washington.edu/crowther/Misc/Songs>]

Industrial Evolution

LifeSciencesWorld explores the rapidly changing landscape of bio-industries including biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, medical devices, and life sciences. Their web site offers the latest in science and industry news, as well as blogs, event announcements, and job listings. The site also includes an online directory loaded with listings of biotechnology companies around the world to assist job seekers and members of the press. Links to varied and surprising educational resources are also available at the site, including a collection of Buddhist Yantra paintings and other popular life-sciences sites.

[www.lifesciencesworld.com]

Silent Spring

Rachel Carson's classic book, "Silent Spring," published in 1962, awakened the world to concerns of pesticides and pollution in the environment and their effects on public health. Funded by the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure, the Silent Spring Institute was created in Carson's honor and aims to increase awareness of the impact of environmental factors on breast cancer. Its web page hosts eye-opening online review articles describing environmental pollutants, diet, intrauterine factors, and common medications that increase

Water Flea Collaring

Beauty is in the eye of the beholder, but sometimes it appears in the most unexpected places. A water flea may not be most folks' idea of a charming organism, but even for a jaded eye, it is hard not to see something admirable in these tiny crustaceans. At waterflea.org, visitors can learn about the evolutionary history of the organism, their diet, life cycle, and predators. They can watch movies of water fleas in action and pull down beautiful screen captures. The site's database requires registration for full access, but the casually curious can scan through some of the offerings including pictures and phylogenetic charts.

[www.waterflea.org]

A darkfield photomicrograph of an adult female *Simocephalus* with eggs (green spheres). The red pigmentation is hemoglobin. This image is a community contribution to waterflea.org, a site devoted to promoting research and education about water fleas beyond the genus *Daphnia*. © 2007 Derek J. Taylor.

the risk for developing breast cancer. A database of epidemiology reviews covers links to body size, early life exposure, electromagnetic fields, and reproductive history, among others.

[www.sciencereview.silentspring.org]

Tanks a Lot

Not long ago, a home aquarium consisted of a goldfish in a bowl. If you were very sophisticated, you might have had a 10-gallon tank with guppies and a few zebrafish. But by 2011, it has become hard to pull information on those traditional fish from the mountain of data available for more exotic aquarium species. Welcome to Wet Web Media, the online aquarium resource that even marine biologists may not have dreamed of a few years ago. Peruse the pages to learn the latest news on coldwater catfish. Considering getting an octopus? Here's the place to learn the dos and don'ts. From the photo of the day to FAQs and special topics such as ponds and fountains, Wet Web Media is for the next-generation aquarist.

[www.wetwebmedia.com]

Testing 1-2-3

There is a lot more to genetic testing than just submitting a DNA sample for analysis. Indeed, an entire counseling

industry has arisen to help patients understand the results of genetic tests and their implications. With articles written by physicians, healthcare providers, and researchers, NIH's GeneTests web site provides accurate and authoritative information to assist patients and physicians in making appropriate decisions based on the results of genetic tests. Visitors to the site can locate genetic clinics (organized by state, country, and specialty) and access educational materials about testing procedures. GeneTests also hosts GeneReviews, an online publication of peer-reviewed articles containing current descriptions of diseases, all authored by experts. These reviews explain how genetic testing is incorporated into a wider plan for diagnosis, management, and counseling of patients and families with inherited conditions, and are searchable by gene, protein, disease, author, or title.

[www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/GeneTests]

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