



WORLD NEWS

USA



● Squirrel study

A study from the University of California, Davis says that squirrels share personality traits with humans. After collecting data over three years, researchers found that golden-mantled ground squirrels can be bold, aggressive, athletic and sociable. The study says bolder, more aggressive squirrels “may find more food or defend a larger territory, but their risky behaviour may also make them vulnerable to predation [attacks] or accidents.” Lead author Jaclyn Aliperti says she views squirrels as individuals rather than “on a species level”.

MEXICO



● Acapulco earthquake's lights

Last week, a powerful earthquake struck Mexico's southern coast, close to the resort of Acapulco. The 7.0 magnitude quake could be felt around 370km (230 miles) away in Mexico City, sending residents and tourists into the streets, where they witnessed a rare phenomenon known as earthquake lights (EQL). These can appear as either balls of light or lightning in the sky, or a steady glow. Researchers aren't certain what causes EQL, but some believe it's caused by friction between moving rocks creating electrical activity, while others say it might just be caused by shaking power lines.

ARCTIC CIRCLE

● A mammoth comeback!

Scientists have raised the money they need to bring back the woolly mammoth. The genetic science company Colossal says it has \$15 million (£11 million) of funding required to create an elephant-mammoth hybrid (mixture or cross). Colossal plans to produce lab-based embryos that carry mammoth DNA from frozen specimens of the ancient animals, which died out around 4,000 years ago. These embryos would then be carried by a surrogate (substitute) elephant mum, or possibly in an artificial womb, until birth.



A mammoth skeleton

ACROSS

- 1) A beach resort town on Mexico's Pacific coast (proper noun 8)
- 5) A very large and very hairy extinct elephant, known for its curved tusks (noun 7)
- 6) Exposed to the possibility of being physically attacked or harmed by something else (adjective 10)
- 7) The resistance one surface experiences by rubbing against another (noun 8)

DOWN

- 2) An observable fact or event; commonly one that has been previously questioned (noun 10)
- 3) Unborn humans or animals in the earliest stages of growth; this is when their basic structures are formed (plural noun 7)
- 4) The organ of a woman or other female mammal in which an unborn baby develops and grows (noun 4)
- 8) Full of the possibility of danger or failure (adjective 5)

