

THIS WEEK IN CHEMISTRY

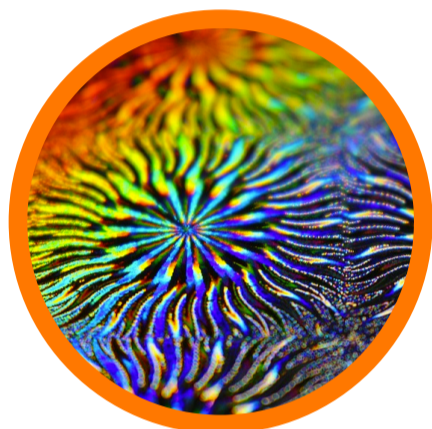
7TH MAY 2017 – 13TH MAY 2017

Links to articles & studies for the featured stories are provided at: <https://goo.gl/59Sj4q>



BEAR HAIR CHEMICAL CONTENT REVEALS THEIR DIET

Isotopic analysis of hairs from grizzly bears has uncovered detail about their diet and habits. It showed that the bears start growing their winter coats later in the year than thought, and that even at the peak of the salmon season many bears still forage for vegetation.



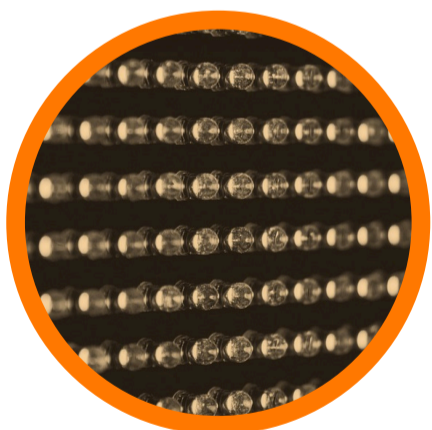
STRETCHABLE HOLOGRAMS CAN DISPLAY DIFFERENT IMAGES

Using gold nanorods and stretchable polydimethylsiloxane (PDMS), researchers have created holograms which display different two-dimensional images when stretched. Currently the stretchable holograms can only switch between two or three fixed images.



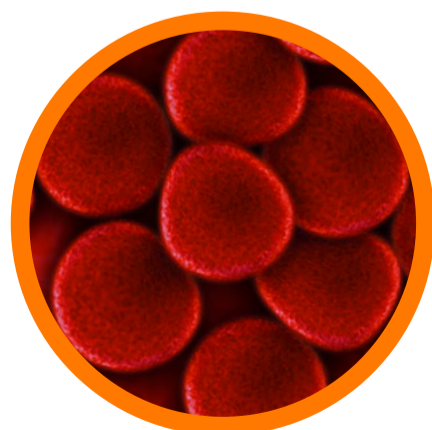
VERY LOW LEAD LEVELS MAY AFFECT GOLDEN EAGLES

A Swedish study took blood samples from golden eagles and then monitored their movements. Those with higher lead exposure moved less and flew at lower heights. Exposures to one-eighth of the limit for background exposure were shown to have an effect.



THE MOST EFFICIENT SINGLE MOLECULE DIODE EVER CREATED

Diodes allow an electric current to flow in one direction but not the other, a principle used in light-emitting diodes. 1,8-nonadiyne has an efficiency much higher than the first single molecule diodes, though its stability and lifespan still need to be improved for real-world uses.



'MOLECULAR PROSTHETIC' STANDS IN FOR IRON TRANSPORT

In cells which don't have the required proteins to move iron into and out of cells, a 'molecular prosthetic' can stand in. Molecules of hinokitiol bind to iron and can move it through membranes. It could eventually help rare cases of anaemia caused by a lack of iron transporters.

