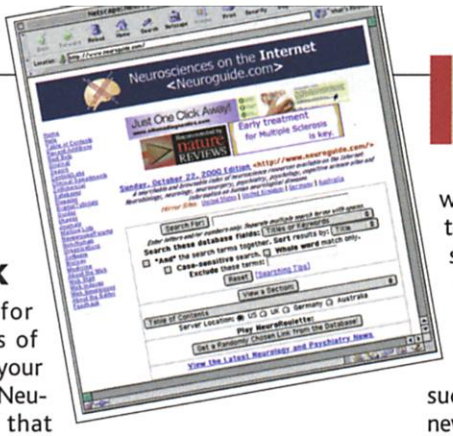
NETWATCH

edited by JOCELYN KAISER



RESOURCES

Neuro Network

Does your Web search for "stroke" turn up hundreds of pages on how to improve your golf game? If so, try visiting Neuroguide, a 6-year-old site that brings order to the Web's tangle of neuroscience resources, from basic science to medical and educational offerings.

Site editor Neil Busis, a neurologist at the University of Pittsburgh, says his goal was "a site that can deal with different parts of the audience and different cognitive styles." So he created three ways of getting around Neuroguide: a key-word search, listings by topic, and Neuroroulette, which launches you to a randomly chosen page. A good starting point is the Best Bets page, a list of what Busis thinks are the most useful links. Under Images you can find scores of sites such as Harvard's Whole Brain Atlas, which offers a series of labeled CT, MRI, and other scans of the human brain. Visit the online tutorials and exams to learn more about topics such as eye function or neuroanatomy. Other links take you to newsgroups and Web forums, neuroscience databases, rosters of labs and professional societies, a calendar of meetings, and electronic journals. Although most of Neuroguide's content comes from elsewhere on the Web, there are also original contributions, ranging from job announcements to peer-reviewed book reviews and papers.

www.neuroguide.com

IMAGES

Krill Stuff

This critter is the classic antarctic krill, *Euphausia superba*, the 55-millimeter-long copepod that whales trek south from the tropics to feast on. At this krill site,* you can zoom in on details such as the delicately ribbed plankton filter and compound eyes of krill and another specimen, a species of amphipod. The shrimplike creatures were photographed aboard an ice-breaking research vessel journeying through the Southern Ocean.

To see more antarctic sea life, check out this field guide† describing a whole menagerie of cold-loving animals and plants, from sponges to jellyfish to diatoms. Also don't miss a professional photographer's amazing shots of the eerie, blue-green world below the frozen sea surface.

* **krill.rutgers.edu**

† **scilib.ucsd.edu/sio/nsf/fguide/index.html**

HISTORY

Chronicling Physics

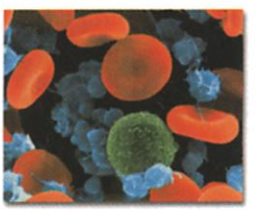
The 1600s were heady days for physics, what with such giant advances as the invention of thermometers, the discovery that dumping acid on a metal created a flammable gas (hydrogen), and an experiment showing that if you put two halves of an iron sphere together and suck out the air, even teams of horses can't pull them apart. Those are highlights from a timeline of thermodynamics and statistical mechanics being built by Jeff Biggus, a physics history fan in Boulder, Colorado. Biggus, who's also chronicling electromagnetism and hypercomplex numbers from Greek times to the late 1900s, has created timelines that are concise, readable, and filled with references and links. The site also lists other good science timelines.

history.hyperjeff.net

EDUCATION

Cells and Sleuths

As many baby boomer parents know, children are often light-years ahead of adults in their instincts for using the Web. That's clear from a browse through finalists in ThinkQuest, an annual contest in which middle and high school students create Web sites. This year's crop of science sites, on topics from natural disasters to leukemia, could rival many professional sites with their clean design and technical bells and whistles. NetWatch especially likes Cellupedia, a site created by seniors from three high schools working through cyberspace: Besides providing basic information on cell organelles and processes, gorgeous images, and a multiuser variation of the Game of Life, the Web masters added depth with links to abstracts in MEDLINE. Other top sites are set up entirely as games: You can learn about carbon chemistry by playing a spy named Carbon Bond, for instance, or dig into paleontology by catching a dinosaur bone thief.



www.thinkquest.org/tqic/finalists_2k.html

Science ONLINE

Scientists noticed more than 300 years ago that camphor particles dropped on water will dance across the surface, propelled by surface tension. This week in *Science*, Schmid *et al.* report on p. 1561 that a mechanism similar to the "camphor dance" may be at work in the formation of alloys. In two videos on *Science* Online, you can see this process: amoeba-like blobs of tin sweep across a few hundred nanometers of copper, exchanging atoms with copper to form pockets of bronze, then scamper away to unalloyed areas.

www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/290/5496/1561

Send Internet news and great Web site suggestions to netwatch@aaas.org

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