

# This month in *Nature*

Below is a selection of highlights published in *Nature* or made available online on nature.com in the last month. Click on the article titles to be taken straight to the content online.



## News & Comment

### Brain's 'reading centres' are culturally universal

Whether you are reading in Chinese or French, the same brain areas light up.

### Life abounds in Antarctic lake sealed under ice

Lake Vida's cold brine has yielded a bounty of microbes.

### UNESCO head faces early leadership challenge

Rival bid for leadership poses threat to Bokova's second term.

[More...](#)

## Outlook



[Read more here](#)

## Podcasts



**22nd November *Nature* Podcast** – This week, dry spells spell bad news for forests, brain cells whisper to their neighbours, and DNA gets a new alphabet.

**8th November *Nature* Podcast** – Tech-savvy early humans, swallowing worms to treat bowel disorders, and designing the perfect protein. Plus, the fate of glacial melt water in Peru.

## Videos



**Confronting the Universe**  
Nature Video presents five debates on issues that matter to the current generation of physicists.

Recorded at the 2012 Meeting of Nobel Laureates in Lindau, the films deal with dark matter, the looming energy crisis, science education and the relationship between theory and experiment.

## Blogs



**House of Wisdom** – a blog from *Nature Middle East*  
recent posting: [Negotiating Climate Change in Doha](#)

**Of Schemes and Memes Blog**  
recent posting: [The Friday Quiz – 23rd November](#)

## Insight

**Metabolism and disease**  
Metabolic diseases, such as diabetes and obesity, are a threat to global health.

This Insight focuses on some of the underlying biology that can contribute to these disorders.

[Read more here](#)

## Latest research

### Biological sciences

[Autism-related deficits via dysregulated eIF4E-dependent translational control](#)

[Non-synaptic inhibition between grouped neurons in an olfactory circuit](#)

### Chemical sciences

[The Mu transpososome structure sheds light on DDE recombinase evolution](#)

[Water structural transformation at molecular hydrophobic interfaces](#)

### Earth & Environmental sciences

[Little change in global drought over the past 60 years](#)

[Mechanisms for oscillatory true polar wander](#)

### Physical sciences

[A primordial origin for misalignments between stellar spin axes and planetary orbits](#)

[Sisyphus cooling of electrically trapped polyatomic molecules](#)

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