# **Topical Science Update**

## March 2017

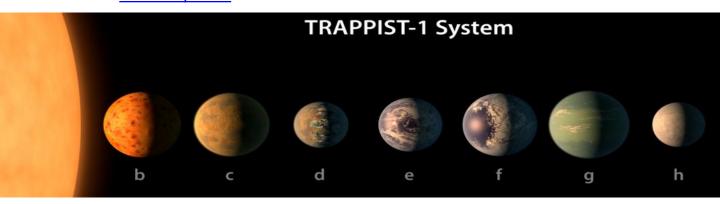


Why are we still discovering new species? <u>Thumbnail Frog</u> <u>SUNY-ESF Top 10 New Species</u> Giraffe Species

## What's New?

Scientists have discovered over 2 million species of plants and animals but predict that there are millions more left to discover. Every year between 15,000 and 18,000 new species are discovered on our planet.

Most of them are insects and many of the rest are cryptic species which can only be told apart by their different genetic make up; for example it has recently being shown that there are 4 genetically different species of giraffe in Africa.



### Seven 'Earth' size Planets Discovered

NASA Press Release

TRAPPIST-1

NASA has announced the discovery of a Solar System with seven Earth sized planets. The discovery, by the Spitzer Space Telescope, could be significant to helping scientists understand more about potentially habitable planets.

Spitzer Space Telescope

5-a-day, now 10-a-day!



Forget your 5 fruit and veg a day, scientists are now saying that 10-a-day is the key to a longer, healthier life. You need green veg and yellow peppers to reduce the risk of cancer and apples and oranges to cut down the chance of heart attacks and strokes.

<u>10-a-day</u> <u>10-a-day research</u> <u>Why Fruit and Veg is Important</u>

### Wonders of the Ocean

To date we have explored less than 5% of our oceans. This sensational resource from the <u>NOAA</u> lets you join live missions beneath the waves to see what's there. Video clips, photos, information and lesson resources – definitely worth a look! <u>NOAA Okeanos Explorer Website</u>



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