The Verge’s DNA time capsule for 2020

2020: SCIENCE STORIES, MOMENTS, MEMORIES, and EPHEMERA

Compiled by *The Verge*, a science and technology news website that existed in 2020

The following files were selected by *Verge* staff in November 2020. The stories contained are by no means exhaustive; they are a few snapshots of life in 2020.

Within this file folder are the original assets included in the time capsule, as well as a video exploring the capsule’s storage medium: synthetic DNA.

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artemis_accords: Established a common set of principles to govern the civil exploration and use of outer space; signed October 13th, 2020.

bank_message: Bank phone menu recording, October 2020.

DM_2_goodbye: Astronauts Doug Hurley and Bob Behnken saying goodbye to their families before launching to space.

dream_nightmare: Audio from interview with Black aerospace engineer Kayla Watson. Captured during a conversation concerning the simultaneous launch of the NASA / SpaceX DM-2 mission and widespread protests in response to the death of George Floyd.

essential_workers: Self-portraits of health care professionals after working a shift while wearing personal protective equipment (PPE).

Nature_memes: Nature returning to urban settings during

COVID-19 lockdowns, real and imagined.

phosphine: Alleged detection of phosphine gas in cloud layer of Venus suggestive of extraterrestrial life (full paper).

ppe_design: Open-source design for 3D printable face shield, designed to protect health care workers from COVID-19 during nationwide equipment shortage (Prusa Research).

quarantine_cheers: Community ruckus in London to support frontline health care workers during coronavirus lockdown, spring 2020. Captured by *Verge* senior editor Tom Warren.

Robot_swab.mp4: Prototype robot auto-swabber for COVID-19 nasopharyngeal swab test (Brain Navi).

slack_montage: Series of messages within *Verge Science* team from late January 2020.

smoke_cyclones: Confluence of wildfire smoke and multiple tropical cyclones over North America, September 14th – 16th, 2020.

smoke_san_francisco: Apocalyptic skies over San Francisco, September 9th, 2020. Photo by *Verge* senior video director Vjeran Pavic.

zoom_team.gif: *Verge Science* team self-portrait, October 2020.

zoonotic_virus_associations: Map of virus-sharing “network” among wild and domesticated mammalian species (full paper).

Previous Next Page: /

artemis_accords.pdf

zoonotic_virus_associations_1.jpg

zoonotic_virus_associations_2.xlsx

https://www.theverge.com/22173998/dna-time-capsule