



### CURRENT ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS:

- The Traveler's Dilemma
- Green Gold in a Shrub

### ASK THE EXPERTS:

- Does the length of a baseball player's arm affect the distance of his throw? If so, how?

SEARCH

## TOP STORIES

< 1 of 5 >



USDA

### Combating Climate Change: Farming Out Global Warming Solutions

Changes to agricultural practice and forestry management could cut greenhouse gas emissions, buying time to develop alternative technologies

#### BLOG: SCIAM OBSERVATIONS

Opinions, arguments and analyses from the editors of *Scientific American*

Monsters at the American Museum

New Creation Museum Mostly Illustrates that Creationists Have Lots of Cash

Corn: Kind of the Worst Thing Ever

#### IN FOCUS

10 Animals That May Go Extinct in the Next 10 Years

The Dodo may soon have some august company

Ten Years Later, AIDS Vaccine Search Continues

Science gets closer, but a fully effective vaccine remains elusive

Special Report: Inspired by Ancient Amazonians, a Plan to Convert Trash into Environmental Treasure

New bill in U.S. Senate will advocate adoption of "agrifar" method that could lessen our dependence on fossil fuel and help avert global warming

## LATEST SCIENCE NEWS

Combating Climate Change: Farming Out Global Warming Solutions

Brighter Prospects for Cheap Lasers in Rainbow Colors

*Parlez Vous* English, Baby?

Genetically Modified Crops Survive Weed-Whacking Herbicide

Marijuana-Like Chemicals Guide Fetal Brain Cells

New Neurons in Old Brains Exhibit Babylike Plasticity

How Fins Became Fingers

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## WEIRD SCIENCE

Strange but True: When Half a Brain Is Better than a Whole One

You might not want to do it, but removing half of your brain will not significantly impact who you are

Fact or Fiction?: Vitamin Supplements Improve Your Health

Americans pour billions of dollars into supplements every year—an investment in health or money down the drain?

## PODCASTS

Today on 60-Second Science: Presence of Passengers Increases Accident Risk

This week on Science Talk: Lying in Weight: The Hidden Epidemic of Eating Disorders in Adult Women (And A Few Men)

## TODAY'S TRIVIA

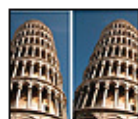
Which part of an apple has more potent antioxidant (anti-cancer) activity—the flesh or the peel?

## SCI-DOKU PUZZLE

Sudoku with a twist

This week's clue: Elements that form a solution

## IMAGE GALLERY



Year's Best Optical Illusion

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## ASK THE EXPERTS

Does the length of a baseball player's arm affect the distance of his throw? If

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A new English garden

Plastic blood

Lugovoy denies Litvinenko murder

Study questions diabetes pill's safety

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Phones that tell you where to drive, meet, eat

Cord blood stem cells produce insulin: researchers

FDA review also shows Glaxo diabetes drug risk

High phosphorus levels tied to heart disease

Cruciferous veggies may ward off bladder cancer

U.S. women, especially minorities, short on folate

Public to comment on USDA's handling of melamine

Factor XI deficiency increases postpartum bleeding

Heart pacing revives victims of cold exposure

Overweight people get less out of exercise: study

FDA calls for curbs on some cough, cold products

Hormone therapy safe for most women under 60

Google's share of U.S. search market jumped in April

World's first lung transplant on HIV patient performed



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ASK THE EXPERTS:

- What is the significance of  $E = mc^2$ ? And what does it mean?

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May 25, 2007



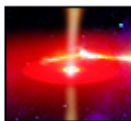
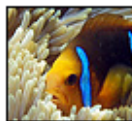

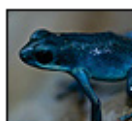

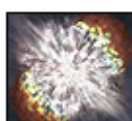
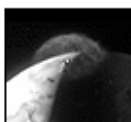


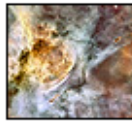

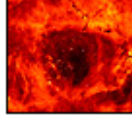


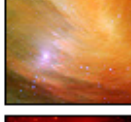
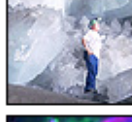
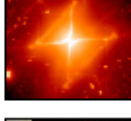
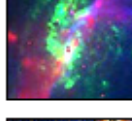
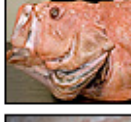





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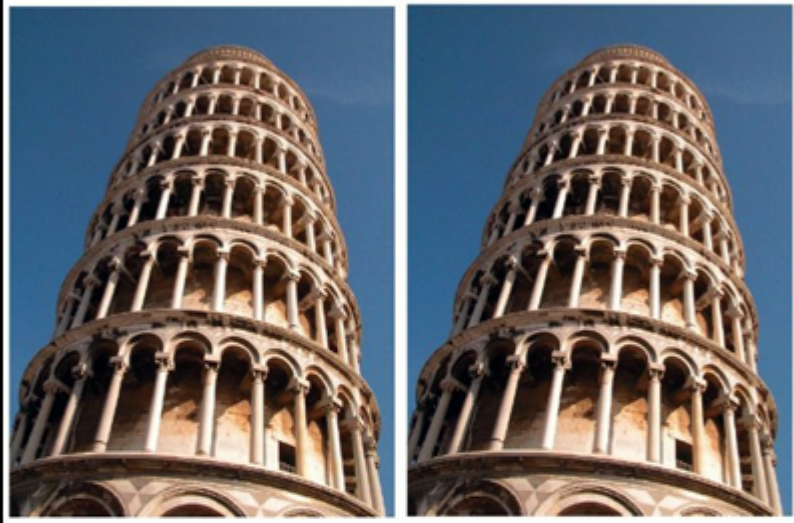
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- FDA review also shows Glaxo diabetes drug risk
- High phosphorus levels tied to heart disease
- Cruciferous veggies may ward off bladder cancer
- U.S. women, especially minorities, short on folate
- Public to comment on USDA's handling of melamine
- Factor XI deficiency increases postpartum bleeding
- Heart pacing revives victims of cold exposure
- Overweight people get less out of exercise: study
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FREDERICK A A KINGDOM, ALI YOONESSI AND ELENA GHEORGHU, *McGill Vision Research, Dept. Ophthalmology, McGill University*

May 23, 2007

**PISA PISA:** No, you have not had one grappa too many. These images of the Leaning Tower are actually identical, but the tower on the right looks more lopsided because the human visual system treats the two images as one scene. Our brains have learned that two tall objects in our view will usually rise at the same angle but converge toward the top—think of standing at the base of neighboring skyscrapers. Because these towers are parallel, they do not converge, so the visual system thinks they must be rising at different angles, as demonstrated by this year's winner of the Best Visual Illusion of the Year Contest, sponsored by the Neural Correlate Society.

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