

3D-Printed Rocket Engine



Pictured: Image of the Skyrora XL **Source:** Skyrora Twitter page

Rocket firm, Skyrora, has confirmed that it has started tests on 3D-printed rocket engines, that could power UK space launches in the future! The tests will be carried out at the biggest rocket testing facility in the UK, in Midlothian, on the site of a disused quarry. The Edinburgh-based business that designs, manufactures, and deploys rockets Tweeted, 'We've officially commenced tests to qualify the updated design of our 70 kilonewton engine for commercial use on #SkyroraXL! 🚀 Produced via our #Skyprint2 printer, the new model can now be manufactured 50% faster at a cost reduction.' The company

says its Skyprint2 3D printer, which is being used to produce the rocket engines, 'has the unique capability of printing multi-composite parts simultaneously from several materials.' It also states that in the future, it will be able to print in outer space! The Skyrora XL is a three stage, light class launch vehicle designed to place payloads into Polar Orbit (between 200km and 1,000km) and Sun-Synchronous Orbit (between 500km and 1,000km). The payload of a rocket will vary depending on the mission; it could be a satellite, space probe, or spacecraft.

One Million Books Gifted

London-based charity, Children's Book Project, has recently celebrated the massive achievement of gifting its millionth book! The charity states on its website that it was set up to match families that have grown out of their books with those that have few books at home. Founder of the Children's Book Project, Liberty Venni, said, 'The joy a book can bring to a child is such a special thing. Thanks to the commitment of our volunteers, supporters, publishers and the wider book buying community – we are able to spread that joy far and wide'. The volunteer-powered charity, that was started 10 years ago, works with over 500 primary and secondary schools all over the nation.

The charity is extremely grateful for the new books that are donated by children's publishers, but Liberty says they are very focused on rehoming preloved books too. She explained that, 'We are especially passionate about finding homes for the thousands of pre-loved books in children's bedrooms that have provided such pleasure to their current owner, but whose time has now come for a new reader.' The organisation hopes, over time, to create 'book rich' communities that can swap and share their own books.

Do you have any books you have grown out of that you would like to donate to someone else? Do you know anywhere that books can be donated and reused?



Pictured: Volunteers sorting books in Leeds for the Children's Book Project
Source: Children's Book Project Twitter page

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Diving Discovery



Pictured: 4oceans divers cleaning up at the bottom of the ocean and members of the clean-up crew working at the surface.
Source: 4oceans Twitter page

A diver has found a phone at the bottom of the ocean, still in working order and has managed to return it to its owner! Alex Schulze, CEO of 4ocean, an ocean clean-up company dedicated to ending the ocean plastic crisis, found a new iPhone in a waterproof bag whilst cleaning the ocean floor. The phone, found off the coast of Florida, USA, was also inside a waterproof case. The team were able to recover, charge it enough to turn the device on, and get in touch with the owner's emergency contact. The phone could then be returned to its grateful, rightful owner. The diving

clean-up crews say they find lots of phones amongst the debris they remove from the ocean, but this case was unusual as the phones tend to be waterlogged and no longer able to turn on. 'We're always stoked about the work we do cleaning the ocean,' said Alex, 'But it's even better to make someone's day by returning what's important to them!' 4ocean has worked to remove over 13.1 million kg of plastic from oceans, rivers, and coastlines in the US, Guatemala, and Indonesia. A video telling the story has even become a TikTok sensation, reaching over three million views.

Last week's topic: How has travel changed our lives?

It has made the world better. People can see and do things they couldn't before.

JP



Travel has meant we understand each other better.

Franny

I believe that it has made the world seem smaller.

John

I like to travel by car and train because it is fun.

Gordon

Let us know what you think about this week's news?



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