

NOVA scienceNOW

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NOVA scienceNOW, an Emmy-nominated fast-paced science magazine series, brings to viewers fresh new perspectives, fascinating scientists, cutting-edge innovations, and provocative stories from the frontlines of science, technology, and medicine. Hosted by renowned author and astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson, the series also introduces a brand-new correspondent this season, Ziya Tong (former host and producer of *Wired Science*).

Each episode of NOVA scienceNOW brings viewers four current stories about the most intriguing discoveries and biggest breakthroughs from an array of scientific fields – ranging from biomedicine and technology to archeology, astrophysics, natural history, and more. Sample episodes include topics focusing on an array of scientific discoveries and phenomena, such as:

NOVA scienceNOW #17: Synthetic Diamonds Tyson investigates the breakthroughs in the engineering of artificial diamonds. Indistinguishable from the real thing, these glittering, scientifically mastered creations may one day adorn more than ring fingers. They could replace silicon transistors in everything from supercomputers to high-speed electric trains.

NOVA scienceNOW #18: Hunting Hidden Planets This segment brings viewers to visit astronomers on the brink of finding “another Earth” with a new planet-hunting machine that will soon be operational: the Kepler telescope. This ingenious technique could turn up hundreds of Earth-like worlds and finally answer the age-old question: Are we alone?

NOVA scienceNOW #19: The Moon Smasher Tag along with a team of scientists at NASA who will smash two SUV-sized rockets onto the lunar surface and unleash a debris cloud to study with LCROSS (Lunar Crater Observation and Sensing Satellite). The data could provide the key to understanding how to build a permanent base on the moon, and findings could accelerate a new “race to the moon” and an era of “colonizing the stars.”

NOVA scienceNOW #20: The Dinosaur Plague Renowned paleontologist George Poinar – whose study of extinct creatures exquisitely preserved in amber partly inspired *Jurassic Park* – has announced his discovery of multiple clues to parasitic pandemics that could have been just as instrumental in wiping out the dinosaurs as the hypothesized asteroid impact.

NOVA scienceNOW #23: Personal Genome Tyson gets a personal genetic profile that predicts his chances of contracting serious diseases. Before long, everyone will be able to sequence his or her entire genome. Doctors hope to use our genomes to predict exactly who is likely to get sick and what to do to prevent it.

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CREDITS

Executive Producer: Paula S. Apsell
Senior Series Producer: Melanie Wallace
Producers: Julia Cort, Peter Doyle and Joe McMaster
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