

SPOTTED

Spotted around the web: Week of 22 April 2019

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26 APRIL 2019

WEEK OF APRIL 22ND

Research roundup

- Autistic children with disruptive behavior have lower connectivity between two brain regions than do children with autism alone. [Biological Psychiatry: Cognitive Neuroscience and Neuroimaging](#)
- Previous findings suggest that autistic children rarely use the words ‘think’ and ‘know’ when telling stories — but this may not be true for autistic girls. [Molecular Autism](#)
- A natural-language-processing program can comb through children’s electronic health records and genetic test results to detect serious genetic conditions. [Science Translational Medicine](#)

Science and society

- A new “Sesame Street” video teaches people how to ‘hug’ children with autism who have a sensitivity to touch. [Lifehacker](#)
- CRISPR-based enzymes that edit DNA also make unintended changes in RNA. [Science](#)
- A new medical device treats attention deficit hyperactivity disorder in children by delivering electrical pulses to the brain while they sleep. [Gizmodo](#)
- Researchers are trying to develop an autism screen based on the time it takes toddlers to respond when their name is called. [The New York Times](#)
- Parents have a hard time adjusting their hopes and expectations when their child gets diagnosed with a rare developmental condition. [The Atlantic](#)
- Swedish activist Greta Thunberg’s autism has fueled the 16-year-old’s passion for tackling climate change, says columnist Ian Birrell. [The Guardian](#)
- Women at the Salk Institute in La Jolla, California, say a small group of male faculty has a disproportionate amount of power over the allocation of private funding. [The New York](#)

Times Magazine

- Scientists have found a way to decode brain signals and translate them into speech. ***NPR***
- Efforts to understand how genetic and environmental factors influence human traits have been limited by statistical problems. ***Quanta Magazine***
- The push to create more exotic model organisms using gene-editing tools has revealed how little scientists know about other species. ***Nature***
- Martial arts classes can help children on the spectrum learn social skills. ***WPRI***
- In response to the biggest measles outbreak in the United States in a quarter-century, Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar released a statement on the dangers of measles and the importance of getting vaccinated. **U.S. Department of Health and Human Services**

Autism and the arts

- Comic-book artists hope a superhero on the spectrum empowers autistic children and raises awareness about the condition. ***The Salt Lake Tribune***
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