CSAAPT Spring 2023 Semi-Virtual Meeting

Chesapeake Section of the

American Association of Physics Teachers



Spring 2023 Semi-Virtual Meeting April 1, 2023 @ JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY.

Contribution ID: 22

Type: talk (15-minute)

Newton Rules Biology: How Physics Influences Sizes and Shapes of Animals

Saturday, April 1, 2023 9:45 AM (15 minutes)

We are used to seeing variations in size and proportions among humans and animals, often without thinking much of it. What limits their sizes? Why is it that the tallest man or woman is not taller than 8 feet? And, while at it, why aren't more of them? What challenges would a much taller person (or shorter) face in their day-to-day living? What about efficiency –how does food consumption relate to average specimen size? In this talk we will examine and attempt to answer some of these questions by placing nature's creatures under a "Physics" microscope.

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