

Sunday News No. 125

December 13th, 2020

@daveg

“What has Coronavirus taught me? I hate the countryside apart from vacation and hate working from home. When this is over, choose cities, bars, cafes, galleries, concerts, offices, public transport. Choose life”

The return to the Real World will be full of opportunities. Most significant will be alternatives to the current dystopic “World as a Store” model.

Sunday News is a selection of the links posted daily by the [Explora community](#). I can add you if you want (need to have a Facebook account). Newcomers can check previous Sunday News editions at [Explora live](#). Read Sunday News’ First and Second-Year Highlights [here](#).

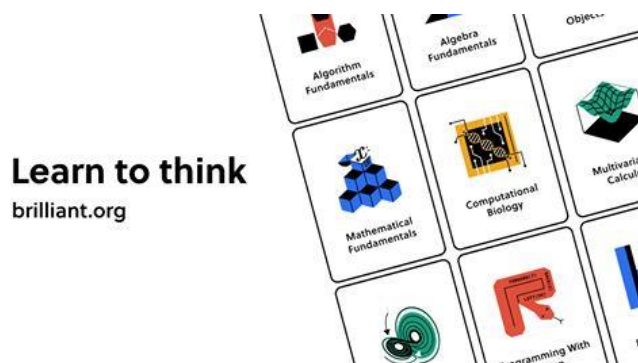
Antonio Camara

Education

[Leisure: the basis of culture](#)

[Planning a postdoc before moving to industry? Think again](#)

[Dear parents: the future is “No code”](#)



[Learn to think and problem solve with Brilliant](#)

[Documentary follows implosion of billion-euro brain project](#)

[52 things I learned in 2020](#). Great stuff

Food

[Eat, drink, play: the recipe for memorable food in video games](#)

[Spyce’s robotic kitchen continues to grow](#)

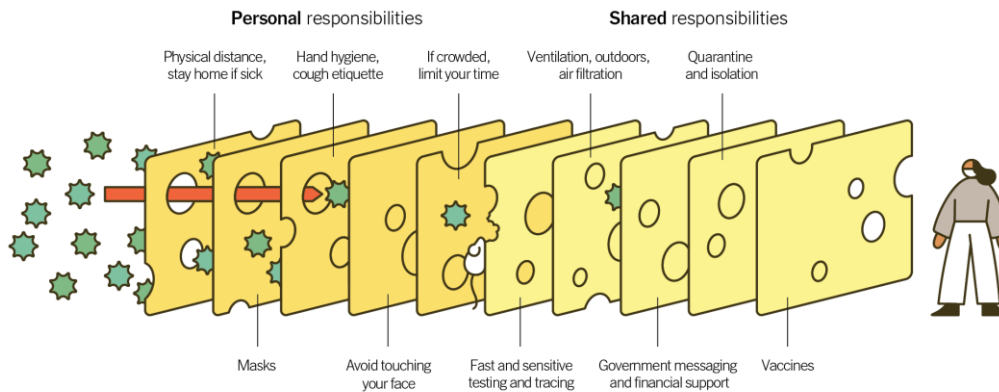
[Socio-technical innovation bundles for agri-food systems transformation](#), a Cornell Atkinson Center for Sustainability report

Health

[Amazon’s new health band is the most invasive tech we’ve ever tested](#)

Multiple Layers Improve Success

The Swiss Cheese Respiratory Pandemic Defense recognizes that no single intervention is perfect at preventing the spread of the coronavirus. Each intervention (layer) has holes.



Source: Adapted from Ian M. Mackay (virologydownunder.com) and James T. Reason. Illustration by Rose Wong

[The Swiss cheese model of pandemic defense](#)

[Covid test-and-trace: Is backwards contact tracing the way forward?](#)

[Mental health startups to watch](#)

Sports

[Quell raises 3 million dollars to turn home fitness into a game](#)

[All stars](#). “Is a great team more than the sum of its players? Complexity science reveals the role of strategy, synergy, swarming and more”

Mobility



[Aptera launches a 1000-miles solar/electric car that needs no charging](#)

[Emission-free water taxis want to change how people move around cities](#)

[A race car crash from hell—and the science that saved its driver](#)

[This super-energy-dense battery could nearly double the range of electric vehicles](#)

Cities, Nature and Clean Tech

[Grant to fund study of acoustics in turfgrass pest control](#)

[Australia gears up for the great Koala count, using drones, droppings and dogs](#)

[How lessons from bees, leaves and our own blood may help us save civilization](#)

[Young ravens rival adult chimps in a big test of general intelligence](#)

[Honeybees found using tools, in a first—to repel giant hornet attacks](#)

[The social life of forests](#)

[Unsupervised environmental monitoring using autonomous balloons](#)

[14 countries launch a new plan to achieve a ‘sustainable ocean economy’](#)

[The Ministry for the Future](#) by Kim Stanley Robinson

Developing new companies

[Productive uncertainty](#)

[Latest Portuguese Venture Capital funds announcements](#)

[Record number of U.S. firms invested in Europe Tech this year](#)

[Turn Detroit into Drone Valley](#)

[Social strike back](#), by Andreessen Horowitz

[Every company will be a fintech company](#)

[The year of TikTok](#)

[The luxury e-commerce wars heat up](#)

[China aims to shake US grip on chip design tools](#)

[The Airbnbs](#), by Paul Graham. [7 early rejections](#) received by Airbnb founders

[‘This is insanity’: Start-Ups end year in a deal frenzy](#). Read also [Overvalued startups could be ‘shorted’ by new firm](#)

Ways to generate buzz for your product

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| 1. Release a remarkable video | 6. Offer a remarkable giveaway |
| 2. Create a remarkable product demo | 7. Include a remarkable viral mechanic |
| 3. Offer a remarkable value prop | 8. Get a remarkable hard-to-get product to be shared by influencers or press |
| 4. Execute a remarkable offline stunt | 9. Carry out a remarkable pre-launch tease |
| 5. Start a remarkable controversy | 10. Be remarkably everywhere |

[Generating buzz](#)

AR/VR/AI/Quantum Computing/IoT

[How YDX is re-shaping the future of entertainment](#)

[Mojo Vision teams up with optics leader Menicon to develop AR contact lenses](#)

[How Magic Leap is trying to reinvent itself \(and AR\) for 2021](#)

[Despite limitations, 3D and AR are creating new realities in retail](#)

[3 advancements coming to virtual reality](#)

[Experimenting with GPT-3 felt like witnessing a technological revolution](#)

[Michael Kott on Ynvisible's breakout in Toronto and Frankfurt](#)

Far out

[TIME's first ever Kid-of-the-Year](#)



[Cyberpunk 2077 is dad rock, not new wave](#)

[Ridley Scott inspires Network Rail's cave-exploring drone](#)

[Sci-fi surveillance: Europe's secretive push into biometric technology](#)

[Inside the obsessive world of miniature arcade machine makers](#)

[Correlation of influenza deaths in German regions in 1918 with Nazi votes in 1933](#)

[How to pretend you are in Dakar today](#)

[The best tech books of 2020](#)

Carbon offsets as Christmas gifts [here](#) and [here](#)