Programme Details

Thursday 29 May 2003

Leading Edge brings you the latest news from the world of science. Geoff Watts celebrates discoveries as soon as they're being talked about - on the internet, in coffee rooms and bars; often before they're published in journals. And he gets to grips with not just the science, but with the controversies and conversation that surround it.

Video Games

New research has amazingly found that playing action video games can actually do you good! Playing certain games can improve a range of attention related visual skills, meaning that you are able to monitor complex visual environments better than non-game players.

Earthquakes

Earthquake prediction is currently not very precise and although scientists would like to be able to predict them weeks or months in advance, so far this has not proved possible. However, researchers have now developed an earthquake alarm system that would give a few seconds warning, which would at least be enough to save lives. Our reporter Molly Bentley finds out more.

Also in the programme

The first stars may have been formed earlier than we think. Plus a new non-invasive method for assessing blood flow in brain injured...
patients that could save lives. Join Geoff Watts to find out more.

Next week
Moving images of the spine.

RELATED LINKS
Seismological Laboratory, California Institute of Technology Earthquake Alarm
Daphne Bavelier - Video games and attention
BBC Science
The BBC is not responsible for the content of external websites