

Scientist Spends 13 Days Underwater

Not many people have their wildest dreams come true, but scientist Lloyd Godson did -- he got to live underwater! Godson lived in an 8- by-11-foot-long yellow steel box he called the BioSUB. He lived for 13 days at the bottom of a lake in Australia.



Lots of work was needed to keep Godson alive under water for almost two weeks. First, the BioSUB had to be built. But then, what about air and food and electricity?

- Godson breathed air that was produced by algae plants inside the BioSUB. The plants gave off oxygen for him to breathe. In turn, the plants used the carbon dioxide Godson breathed out to make more oxygen.
- Divers delivered food and water -- and the daily newspaper -- to Godson. They delivered it through a manhole in the bottom of the BioSUB.
- Godson used an exercise bicycle to create electricity so he could recharge his laptop computer and provide light so the algae would grow. The bike also gave Godson some much-needed exercise.

NEWS WORD BOX

deliver	oxygen
wildest	produce
carbon dioxide	algae

So what did Godson do to keep busy underwater? He used a wireless Internet connection to talk with students all over the world. In his spare time he watched movies on his laptop.

MORE FACTS ABOUT THE BIOSUB

- Scientists studied Godson to see how living alone underwater for almost two weeks affected him.
- Godson paid for the project with \$42,000 he won in the “Live Your Dream” contest sponsored by an Australian nature magazine.
- In the last few days underwater, Godson ate algae plants. Algae are a good source of protein and vitamins.

THINK ABOUT THE NEWS

Would you want to live underwater for an extended time like Lloyd Godson did? Why would you like -- or not like -- to do that?