

'New life' found in Antarctica's Lake Vostok

The following is an edited excerpt.

There is something alive in Lake Vostok, deep beneath the East Antarctic ice sheet, and we don't know what it is. Water samples from the lake contain a bacterium that does not seem to belong to any known bacterial groups – although whether it truly is a new form of life remains to be proven.

Russian scientists [breached Lake Vostok](#) in February 2012, after years of drilling. The lake lies [beneath 3.5 kilometres of ice](#), and has been [cut off from the rest of the world](#) since Antarctica froze 14 million years ago.

Read the full article here: [Mystery bug found in Antarctica's Lake Vostok](#)