Webb's First Deep Field image reveals galaxy cluster SMACS 0723. This slice of the vast universe covers a patch of sky approximately the size of a grain of sand held at arm's length by someone on the ground. The overall mass of this galaxy cluster acts as a gravitational lens to enlarge more far-off galaxies. This deep field was obtained by Webb's Near-Infrared Camera (NIRCam), using an exposure time of 12.5 hours.

An enormous mirror yields results: The Webb mirror has a collecting area more than six times larger than that of the Hubble Space Telescope, provides a far higher spatial resolution than the infrared Spitzer Space Telescope, and a much wider field of view than Hubble's NICMOS camera.