

Fact or Fiction?



Summary

Nanotechnology: Fact or Fiction explores the reality and fiction of nanoscale science. Graphic panels contrast real products that apply nanotechnology with fictional examples of nanobots. In the construction area, visitors create their own models of an imaginary nanobot using colorful toy parts. In the display area, they can fill out a card explaining what their nanobot is designed to do, and display their creations for others to see. A wall graphic and picture book called “Is that robot real?” explore the challenges facing the development of very small robots, and explain that nanobots currently do not exist.

Big Idea

- Many real examples of nanotechnology do exist, but others (such as nanobots) are imaginary.

Learning Goals

- Nano is very, very small.
- Nanotechnology is real and can be found in applications such as clothing and sports equipment.
- Nanobots are not real and do not currently exist.
- There are many challenges related to creating a nano-sized robot.
- In the future, nanobots might exist and might be able to do useful things.

Exhibit Details

Audience: All ages

Exhibit Format: Stand-Alone Exhibit Component
Part of the *Nanolab+Fact or Fiction* exhibition

Exhibit Dimensions: 6' deep x 10' wide x 7' tall

