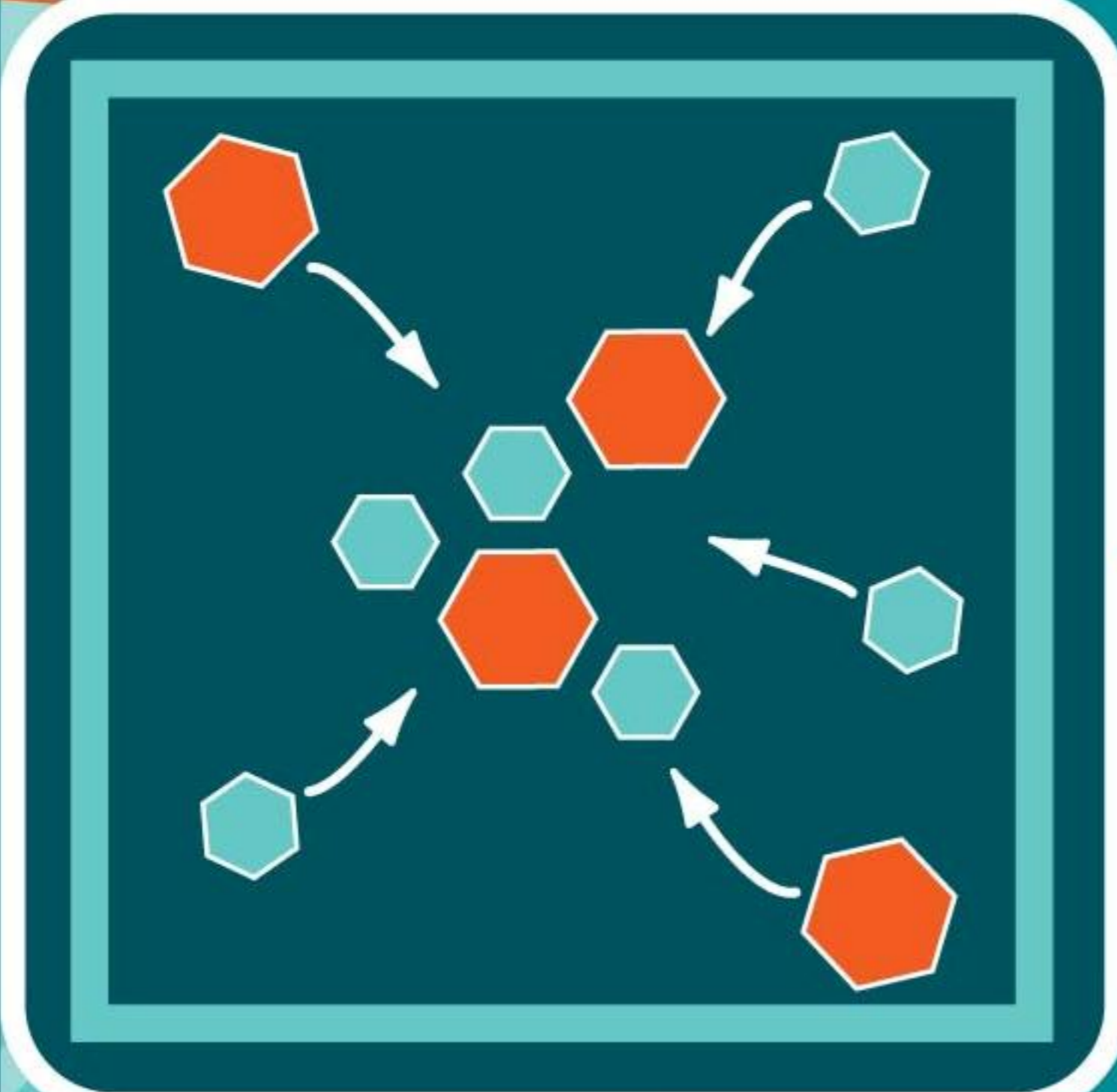
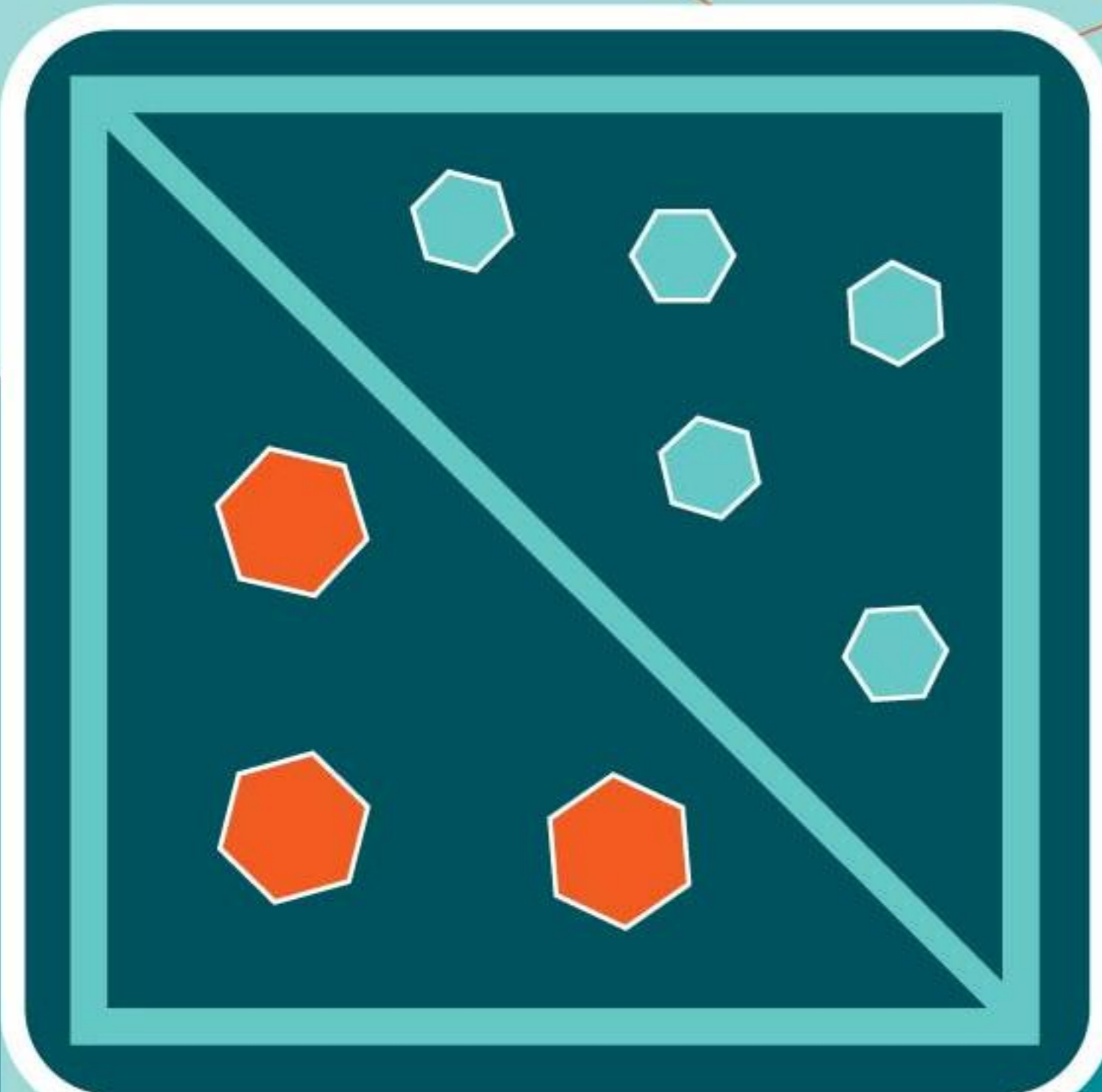


Creating Nanomaterials

Through Self Assembly



SELF ASSEMBLE!



Nanoparticles are so small that assembling materials one nanoparticle at a time is not practical. If you assembled 10 million molecules of water a second, it would take over 3 million years to make just a single drop of water!

However, under specific conditions, atoms and molecules spontaneously arrange themselves. This process is called self assembly. Self assembly plays a part in all living systems (including you!). The complex shapes of proteins and DNA are formed through self assembly.

Scientists are investigating the self-assembly process to learn how to design and control self-assembling systems made of nanoparticles.



NISE and all related activities are supported by the National Science Foundation's Informal Science Education program (ESI - 0532536).