nano

An engaging and interactive mini-exhibition for family audiences about nanoscale science, engineering, and technology.

Description:

Nano is an interactive exhibition that engages family audiences in nanoscale science, engineering, and technology. Hands-on exhibits present the basics of nanoscience and engineering, introduce some real world applications, and explore the societal and ethical implications of this new technology.

Nano was created by the Nanoscale Informal Science Education Network (NISE Network) with support from the National Science Foundation. The *Nano* exhibition is intended for long-term display in museums across the United States, where it will engage millions of people. Up to fifty copies of *Nano* will be fabricated; all copies will be identical and distributed to museum partners free of charge. The exhibition complements NanoDays events and other NISE Network educational experiences.

Specifications:

- footprint: 400 square feet
- layout: modular design and flexible configurations
- signage: bilingual English and Spanish
- audience: families with children
- location: indoor museum use; not designed for portable outreach events
- power: one exhibit component requires electricity
- maintenance: minimal

How can I get the *Nano* mini-exhibition for my institution?

NISE Network partner institutions in the U.S. can apply through a competitive application process. Up to 50 copies of *Nano* will be awarded. Mini-exhibitions will be distributed free of charge to successful applicants. Online applications are due March 1, 2012.

What is the timeline?

A small number of mini-exhibition copies were produced in 2011 and will undergo additional visitor evaluation. The remaining copies will be produced in 2012 and 2013.

Commitments?

Successful applicants must agree to:

- display the complete mini-exhibition for at least one year
- own the mini-exhibition
- report yearly for up to four years
- sign a display and ownership agreement

More information:

- **Host Resources, Images, and Video Walkthrough:** www.nisenet.org/catalog/exhibits/nano_mini-exhibition
- **Public web page:** www.whatisnano.org
- **Contact:** exhibits@nisenet.org

NISE network
NANOSCALE INFORMAL SCIENCE EDUCATION

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Configurations and component descriptions

Where can you find nano?
I Spy Nano: visitors try a series of interactive challenges, then search a complex image for examples of real nano products and phenomena.

What does nano mean for us?
Balance our Nano Future: visitors balance blocks on a tippy table, which represents the challenge of working together to build a stable nano future.

What's new about nano?
Build a Giant Carbon Nanotube: visitors work together to build a giant model of a carbon nanotube.

What happens when things get smaller?
Small, Smaller, Nano: visitors explore progressively smaller magnetic materials—magnetite sand, iron powder, and ferrofluid.

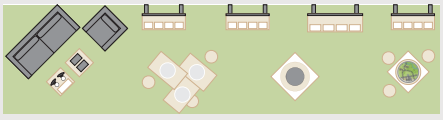
Seating and Reading Area
Reading Area: visitors sit comfortably while learning more from books and reading boards.

Static vs. Gravity: visitors spin disks containing small and large plastic beads, comparing the relative effects of static electricity and gravity on different size beads.

The mini-exhibition's modular design allows for flexible configurations and layouts

Corner

Group



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