A nanometer is one billionth of a meter. In numerals, that's 0.000000001 meters. Objects measured in nanometers are too small to see with your eyes, but everything around you starts at the nanoscale—the tiny particles and molecules that form your body, the things you use, and your environment.

MIT.nano is a center with special tools and laboratories for nanoscale research. Our scientists and engineers try to understand the incredibly small nano-world and use their knowledge to design and build just like nature does: atom by atom and molecule by molecule.

What do they build? Practically anything! From renewable energy to better medicine, new materials to advanced manufacturing, faster computers to a cleaner environment, nanoscale research offers countless ways to make the world better.

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