The Science of Stained Glass

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Are science and art connected?

Scientists have affected how artists create art by, for example, developing non- toxic paints and paint in tubes.

Artists, like medical and science illustrators, draw pictures of scientific findings.





How are these connected?



Depiction of a forest glass shop from *Sir John Mandeville's Travels*, Dated 1420 – 1450. British Library, London



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Both show *nanotechnologists*!!

What is nanotechnology?

Nanotechnology is the understanding and control of matter at dimensions of roughly 1 to 100 nanometers, where unique phenomena enable novel applications.

Encompassing nanoscale science, engineering and technology, nanotechnology involves imaging, measuring, modeling, and manipulating matter at this length scale.

--National Nanotechnology Initiative (2003)

...But what does that mean?

What is nanotechnology?

- 1. The nanometer is *extremely small*.
- 2. At the nanometer scale, many materials behave *differently*.
- 3. We can use this new behavior to make *new* technologies.

...How small is extremely small?

Exactly how small is a nanometer?



meter



1/100th of a meter (centimeter)

1/10th of a meter



1/1000th of a meter (millimeter)



All these are still visible with your eyes.

. . . Smaller than you can see!



Nanoscale objects are 1,000 times smaller!!!

6-8 μm One-millionth of a meter (micrometer)



"Nano" all around us



Medieval nanotechnologists

Recipe for stained glass

1. Sand

2. Chemicals to lower the melting point of sand

- Sodium Carbonate (soda ash)
- Calcium Oxide (lime)
- 3. Chemicals to create the color
- 4. Lots of heat!
 - Mixture becomes molten at 1500 °F



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Things are different . . .

Bulk

Size really does matter!





Nano

Things are different . . .

Size really does matter!



Nanoparticles interact differently with light.



Changing the size of the gold particles affects color.







Size=25 nmSize=50 nmSize=100 nmShape: Spherical Shape: SphericalShape: SphericalShape: SphericalColor: REDColor: GREENColor: ORANGE

Chang, Kenneth. "Tiny is Beautiful: Translating 'Nano' Into Practical." <u>New York Times</u> 22 Feb 2005: Science.



Changing the size and shape of the silver particles affects color.







Size=100 nm Color: **YELLOW** Color: **BLUE**

Size=40 nm Size=100 nm Shape: Spherical Shape: Spherical Shape: Triangular Color: **RED**

Plasmon resonance



A small class vs. a football stadium full of people

Gold nanoparticles today





How does it work?

- Nanoshells absorb infrared light, which causes them to heat up.
- Tissue absorption of infrared light is minimal; Penetration is optimal.
- Shells are coated with targeting-molecules: concentrates in tumor cells.
- Increasing the temperature of the cells by more than 30°C kills them!

Silver nanoparticles today

Silver nanoparticles are used to kill bacteria in: •Athletic apparel •Socks •Refrigerators •Storage containers •Washing machines



DISHWASHER & MICROWAVE SAFE Nanoparticles remain effective.

FREEZER & REFRIGERATOR SAFE

FresherLonger™ Miracle Food Storage by Sharper Image®

AIRTIGHT SEALS REDUCE SPOILAGE

Silicone-gasket locking system and impermeable polypropylene construction keep out oxidizing air to reduce spoilage.

REDUCES BACTERIA, MOLD & FUNGUS

Anti-microbial silver nanoparticles infused into the containers reduce growth of bacteria, mold and fungus by 98%.

SPILLPROOF & SHATTERPROOF

Heat-resistant polypropylene containers will not leak or break.



Your turn!

→ You≁





Your turn!

Two activities:

- 1. Synthesize gold and silver nanoparticles.
- 2. Make a nanostained glass window to take home.





Thank you!



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