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Pioneers

Nanoschooling. Materials scientist Robert Chang wants schoolchildren to feel the excitement of nanotechnology, and he's just received \$15 million from the government to make it happen.

Chang, a professor at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, and 70 researchers from 13 institutions are setting up the country's first National Center for Learning and Teaching on nanoscale science and engineering. The 5-year National Science Foundation grant will help them develop, among other things, 2-week-long nanoscience "modules" using hands-on demonstrations, computer simulations, and visualizations that middle school and high school teachers can integrate into existing science curricula.

Chang has done similar work over the past decade in materials science, and he hopes the new center will encourage students to explore the expanding frontier of nanoscience.

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