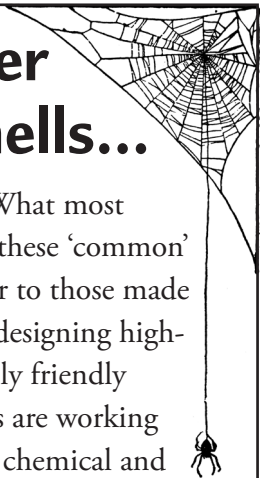


Teeth, fangs, spider webs and seashells...

Natural materials are all around us. What most people don't know is that many of these 'common' materials have properties that are superior to those made in a lab by humans. Whether the goal is designing high-strength silk-like cables or environmentally friendly plastics, scientists and engineers are working hard to decipher the unique chemical and physical attributes of natural materials. At MSU, the Center for Bio-Inspired Nanomaterials studies Nature to create the next generation of 'bio-inspired' materials. Their specialty is nano-scale compounds...those that are one-billionth of a meter and too small for the eye to see. They can be used for everything from self-healing plastics and medical imaging to sustainable energy production.



**Free for Kids: Learn more about bio-materials at
MSU Science Saturday: Jan. 24, 1-3pm, EPS building, MSU**
<http://eu.montana.edu/SciSat> • For kids aged 8-13
To pre-register call 994-6550 during MSU business hours



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