

## FAQs about nanoparticles

### Setting the scene

You work for a local newspaper as a science writer. You have been getting lots of letters from readers asking about nanoparticles. Your editor has asked you to write an article about nanoparticles to answer your readers' questions.

### Aims

In this activity you will:

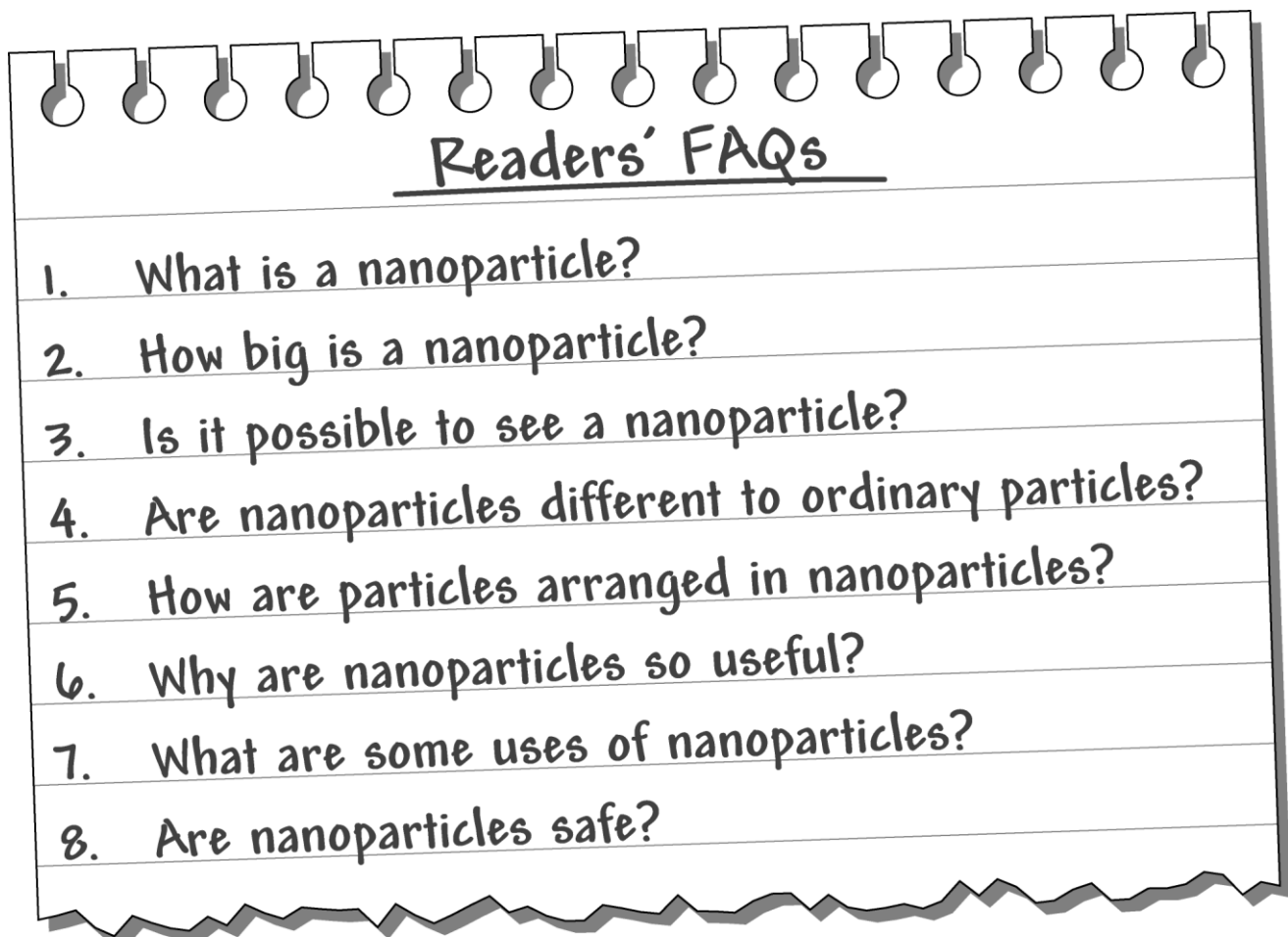
- research information on nanoparticles using different sources
- use this information to answer questions about nanoparticles.

You will be **working scientifically** to:

- interpret observations and data to draw conclusions
- present explanations and explain data
- understand how scientific methods and theories develop.

### Task

Look at the list of questions you have compiled from your readers below.



Readers' FAQs

1. What is a nanoparticle?
2. How big is a nanoparticle?
3. Is it possible to see a nanoparticle?
4. Are nanoparticles different to ordinary particles?
5. How are particles arranged in nanoparticles?
6. Why are nanoparticles so useful?
7. What are some uses of nanoparticles?
8. Are nanoparticles safe?

Write an article to appear in the paper that answers your readers' questions. You can use a range of different sources to find information on nanoparticles, including:

- your student book
- other textbooks
- class notes
- the Internet
- your teacher.

You will need to make sure your answers are detailed enough to answer all the questions you have received but also easy to understand, as your readers may not have any scientific knowledge.

### Extension

- 1 Explain to readers the link between the properties of nanoparticles and one use of nanoparticles, for example, why are carbon nanotubes suitable for use in technology products and aeronautical products?

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- 2 Research the discovery and development of nanoparticles. Present this as an annotated timeline of the key events and discoveries relating to the topics discussed in your article.