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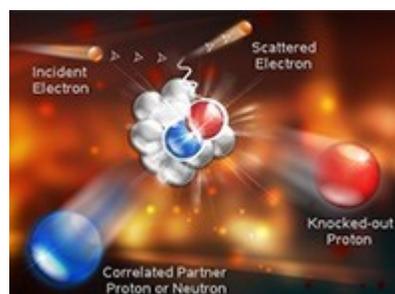
## SCIENCE

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Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility is a U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science national laboratory. Jefferson Lab's unique and exciting mission is to expand our knowledge of the universe by studying the basic building blocks of matter within the nucleus: subatomic particles known as quarks and gluons.

To learn how these particles build our universe, we have embarked on a journey of discovery into the heart of matter using the Continuous Electron Beam Accelerator Facility (shown above). CEBAF is the world's most advanced particle accelerator for investigating the quark structure of the atom's nucleus. Learn more about nuclear physics at Jefferson Lab in Exploring Matter.

For more in-depth and technical information, see the links below.



### Nuclear Physics

From the stars overhead to the atoms in our own DNA, all matter is composed of fundamental particles — particles that cannot be divided into smaller parts. Quarks, we believe, are among the few fundamental particles in the universe. These particles combine to form the protons

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