

Salt Separation

Using water and common household items, your children will demonstrate how two substances mixed together can be separated in the same container using a simple chemical reaction.

Fun Facts/Information:

- · Density is the reason that objects sink or float.
- Solubility is the reason many things mix with water, like tea or Kool-Aid.
- Hot water mixes faster than cold water.



Materials

- Rubbing Alcohol
- Water
- Salt
- Permanent Marker
- Bead
- Small clear container that can be sealed

Directions:

- 1. Fill up your container halfway with rubbing alcohol. (A higher percentage of rubbing alcohol will make a larger separation!)
- 2. Take the cap of the marker and swirl and stir the tip in the rubbing alcohol. It will absorb the ink and turn the alcohol the color of the marker.
- 3. Recap the marker and put a small bead in the solution.
- 4. Add water to fill up your container, leaving some room at the top.
- 5. Shake the container until the water and colored rubbing alcohol have mixed together.
- 6. Open the container and add a little salt.
- 7. Close the container and shake, allowing the salt to mix in the solution.
- 8. Repeat steps 6 and 7 as needed until you see the water and rubbing alcohol separate!

Follow-Up/Extensions:

What other small objects could you put in the mixture to sink or float in it?

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