

SCS Quilck Science!

Milk and Dish Soap Reaction

After two weeks of experiments that required some patience, we have a color swirling activity that will provide instant gratification! You will need food coloring, a plate, q-tips, dish soap, and milk.

1. Pour a small amount of milk onto your plate and wait for it to settle.
2. Carefully add a few drops of food coloring to the center of the milk. Be sure to add the drops from a close distance so they don't splash or sink to the bottom.
3. Dip your q-tip into the dish soap and then dip it into the center of the food coloring in the milk.
4. Watch the swirls! Even though milk is mostly water, there are fat molecules that will react to the dish soap. The soap forces them to quickly push to the edge of the plate, dragging the color along with them.

Pro tip #1: I started this experiment using a bowl, but it actually worked a lot better using a plate!

Pro tip #2: The reaction is between the dishsoap and the fat in the milk, so using whole or 2% milk will give a better reaction.

