Drops Away
Water and oil act differently

**What to do:** Place the oil into one shallow container and the water into the other. Cut two small strips from the construction paper. Dip one paper strip into the oil and the other into the water. Then place them on the paper towels or napkins. Drop a drop of food coloring on each.

**What happens:** The drop of food coloring on the oiled paper sits on the surface while the drop on the water-dipped paper spreads out.

**Why:** The food coloring, which is a water-based, sits as a drop on the oiled paper because its water molecules will not combine with the oil. A substance is called “immiscible” with another when it does not combine to become one substance. The food coloring on the water-dipped paper is said to be “miscible” with it. It dissolves on the paper strip and spreads out, even beyond the paper. Its molecules combine as do the molecules in a solution.

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**YOU NEED**
- 2 small shallow containers
- 2 tablespoons of oil
- 2 tablespoons of water
- White construction paper
- Scissors
- Paper towels or napkins
- Food coloring
- Medicine dropper

Place drop about ¾ inch from the bottom edge