

# Colored Drops

## Task Information

**Grade:** 4th Grade

**Content:**

Physical Science

- **IC1.14** An object composed of two or more different materials that have been mixed may have some properties like each of the original materials and some new properties.
- **IIC1.0** Objects have properties determined by the forms, amounts and properties of the material of which they are made.

**Format:** Manipulative

**Purpose:**

- To determine the student's understanding of properties of different liquids
- To determine the student's ability to make inferences based on observations made in an experiment.

**Skills:**

**Primary:** observing  
**Secondary:** interpreting data

**Time:** 15 minutes

**Materials:**

- | <b>Teacher</b>                        | <b>Per Student</b>                     |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| • dropper bottles labeled Y and B     | • 1 test card                          |
| • clear dish detergent                | • 2 dropper bottles labeled Y and B    |
| • blue food coloring                  | • 3 tooth picks                        |
| • yellow food coloring                | • paper towels                         |
| • graduated cylinder (at least 50 ml) | • wax paper                            |
| • water                               | • waste container (16 oz. plastic cup) |
| • 5 X 8 plain white index cards       |  |

**Preparations:**

- Use permanent marker to draw 1 blue circle, 1 yellow circle, and 1 circle with both colors on the test card. Make each circle approximately 5 cm in diameter.
- Laminate or cover the test card with clear contact paper.
- Cut wax paper into 5" X 8" pieces to cover test card
- Place 50 mL of water and 2 drops of yellow food coloring in dropper bottle Y and stir gently.
- Place 50 mL of water and 3 drops of dish detergent and 2 drops of blue food coloring in dropper bottle B and stir gently.
- Advise students to use separate toothpicks when making observations on each solution.
- Pretest solutions to be certain properties observed are similar to those in the scoring rubric. Concentration in soap solution "B" may have to be adjusted.

**Safety:**

Wear Goggles

Blot water drops with a paper towel before discarding wax test paper

**Extensions/Modifications:** None

## Colored Drops

**Task:** At this station, you will be examining the properties of two liquids and their mixture.

### Materials

- dropper bottle B
- dropper bottle Y
- test card
- wax paper sheet
- 3 toothpicks
- waste cup
- paper towels

### Directions

1. Place a sheet of wax paper over the test card.
2. Place three drops of B on the wax paper over the blue circle on the test card.
3. Use a toothpick to examine the properties of B. Record your observations below.
4. Besides the color, describe 2 properties of drop B that you observed.

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5. Put the toothpick in the waste cup.
6. Place three drops of Y on the wax paper over the yellow circle on the test card.
7. Use a new toothpick to examine the properties of Y. Record your observations below.
8. Besides the color, describe 2 properties of drop Y that you observed.

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9. Put the toothpick in the waste cup.

Please Continue on the Next Page

10. Place two drops of **Y** on the wax paper over the yellow and blue circle on the test card. Place two drops of **B** on top of **Y**.
11. Use a new toothpick to gently mix the yellow and blue drops. Examine the properties of this new mixture.
12. Answer questions 13 - 15 below.
13. Describe 2 properties of the combined drops that you observed.

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14. Is the new mixture more like drop **Y** or drop **B**? \_\_\_\_\_

15. Explain your answer to question 4. \_\_\_\_\_

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16. Put the wax paper and toothpick into the waste cup and use a paper towel to dry the test card.

# Colored Drops - Scoring Rubric

Maximum score - 8 points

1. **Standard:** The student appropriately describes 2 properties of the blue drop.

**Criteria:**

- 1 point for each reasonable property

Sample of acceptable answers:

- |                             |                              |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| • it's a liquid             | • cannot be pushed easily    |
| • it's "runny"              | • cannot be pulled easily    |
| • it's wet                  | • smells like soap           |
| • it's sticky /tacky/ goeey | • it sticks to the toothpick |
| • appears flat              | • cannot be dragged          |
| • spreads out               | • goes through the wax paper |
| • it's thin                 |                              |

\*\*\* Blue drop will not exhibit strong properties of cohesion and surface tension since liquid detergent has been added.

**2 points total**

2. **Standard:** The student correctly describes 2 properties of the yellow drop.

**Criteria:**

- 1 point for each reasonable property

- |                                   |                            |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| • it's wet                        | • can be broken apart      |
| • it's a liquid                   | • can be put back together |
| • can be pushed                   | • follows the toothpick    |
| • clings together                 | • makes a "dome"           |
| • it moves                        | • has no smell             |
| • can be dragged                  | • it's thin                |
| • it stays in a round circle/drop | • sticks together          |
| • it's sticky /tacky/ goeey       |                            |

\*\*\* Yellow drop will exhibit strong properties of water, such as cohesion and surface tension.

**2 points total**

3. **Standard:** The student appropriately describes 2 properties of the drop mixture.

**Criteria:**

- 1 point for each reasonable property

- Sample of acceptable answers:

- |                              |                           |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| • it's green                 | • cannot be pushed easily |
| • cannot be dragged          | • cannot be pulled easily |
| • appears flat               | • smells like soap        |
| • it's sticky                | • it's "runny"            |
| • it sticks to the toothpick |                           |

**2 points total**

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4. **Standard:** The student makes an observation about the combined drops.

**Criteria:**

- 1 point if the student observes that the new drop of liquid acts more like the blue drop

**Total 1 point**

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5. **Standard:** The student provides a reasonable explanation of choice in question #4.

**Criteria:**

- 1 point for a reasonable explanation

**Sample of acceptable explanations:**

- There must have been something in the blue drop that did something to the yellow drop to change it.
- Something in blue drop changed/broke the surface tension of yellow drop.
- When the two drops were mixed together it changed the properties of yellow drop.
- Blue drop seemed to have soap added which changed the way yellow drop behaved.

\*\*\* Credit should be given for a reasonable explanation. Evaluate the students response based on the answer in question #4, even if that observation is incorrect.

**Total 1 point**

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**Highest possible score - 8 points**

Student ID \_\_\_\_\_

**Scoring Form - Colored Drops**

Male / Female (circle one)

Circle the student's score for each question. Add the points for each question and write the total score at the bottom of the scoring form.

- |                                  |   |   |   |
|----------------------------------|---|---|---|
| 1. Properties of blue drop       | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 2. Properties of yellow drop     | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 3. Properties of the mixed drop  | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 4. Observation of the mixed drop | 0 | 1 |   |
| 5. Explanation observation in #4 | 0 | 1 |   |

**Total Score** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Total possible score - 8 points**

Student ID \_\_\_\_\_

**Scoring Form - Colored Drops**

Male / Female (circle one)

Circle the student's score for each question. Add the points for each question and write the total score at the bottom of the scoring form.

- |                                  |   |   |   |
|----------------------------------|---|---|---|
| 1. Properties of blue drop       | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 2. Properties of yellow drop     | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 3. Properties of the mixed drop  | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 4. Observation of the mixed drop | 0 | 1 |   |
| 5. Explanation observation in #4 | 0 | 1 |   |

**Total Score** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Total possible score - 8 points**

Student ID 3 - SM - 28

Scoring Form - Colored Drops

#1

Male / Female (circle one)

Circle the student's score for each question. Add the points for each question and write the total score at the bottom of the scoring form.

- |                                  |          |          |   |
|----------------------------------|----------|----------|---|
| 1. Properties of blue drop       | 0        | <u>1</u> | 2 |
| 2. Properties of yellow drop     | <u>0</u> | 1        | 2 |
| 3. Properties of the mixed drop  | 0        | <u>1</u> | 2 |
| 4. Observation of the mixed drop | <u>0</u> | 1        |   |
| 5. Explanation observation in #4 | <u>0</u> | 1        |   |

Total Score 2 pts  
Total possible score - 8 points

Student ID 3 - SM - 21

Scoring Form - Colored Drops

#2

Male / Female (circle one)

Circle the student's score for each question. Add the points for each question and write the total score at the bottom of the scoring form.

- |                                  |   |          |          |
|----------------------------------|---|----------|----------|
| 1. Properties of blue drop       | 0 | <u>1</u> | 2        |
| 2. Properties of yellow drop     | 0 | <u>1</u> | 2        |
| 3. Properties of the mixed drop  | 0 | 1        | <u>2</u> |
| 4. Observation of the mixed drop | 0 | <u>1</u> |          |
| 5. Explanation observation in #4 | 0 | <u>1</u> |          |

Total Score 6 pts  
Total possible score - 8 points



#3

Student ID 3-SM-19

Scoring Form - Colored Drops

Male / Female (circle one)

Circle the student's score for each question. Add the points for each question and write the total score at the bottom of the scoring form.

1. Properties of blue drop	0	1	<u>2</u>
2. Properties of yellow drop	0	1	<u>2</u>
3. Properties of the mixed drop	0	1	<u>2</u>
4. Observation of the mixed drop	0	<u>1</u>	
5. Explanation observation in #4	0	<u>1</u>	
<b>Total Score</b>			<u>8 pts</u>
<b>Total possible score - 8 points</b>			

Student ID \_\_\_\_\_

Scoring Form - Colored Drops

Male / Female (circle one)

Circle the student's score for each question. Add the points for each question and write the total score at the bottom of the scoring form.

1. Properties of blue drop	0	1	2
2. Properties of yellow drop	0	1	2
3. Properties of the mixed drop	0	1	2
4. Observation of the mixed drop	0	1	
5. Explanation observation in #4	0	1	
<b>Total Score</b>			_____
<b>Total possible score - 8 points</b>			

# Colored Drops

**Task:** At this station, you will be examining the properties of two liquids and their mixture.

## Materials:

- dropper bottle B
- dropper bottle Y
- test card
- wax paper sheet
- 3 toothpicks
- waste cup
- paper towels

3SM-28  
F  
#1

## Directions:

1. Place a sheet of wax paper over the test card.
2. Place three drops of B on the wax paper over the blue circle on the test card.
3. Use a toothpick to examine the properties of B. Record your observations below.
4. Besides the color, describe 2 properties of drop B that you observed.

it stay in one place  
it never break up

5. Throw the toothpick in the waste cup.
6. Place three drops of Y on the wax paper over the yellow circle on the test card.
7. Use a new toothpick to examine the properties of Y. Record your observations below.
8. Besides the color, describe 2 properties of drop Y that you observed.

its tier then y  
it lighter to

9. Throw the toothpick in the waste cup.

Please Continue on the Next Page

#1

10. Place two drops of Y on the wax paper over the yellow and blue circle on the test card. Place two drops of B on top of Y.
11. Use a new toothpick to gently mix the yellow and blue drops. Examine the properties of this new mixture.
12. Answer questions 13 - 15 below.
13. Describe 2 properties of the combined drops that you observed.

it fure green  
and kind fine

14 Is the new mixture more like drop Y or drop B? Y

15. Explain your answer to question 4. it evaporat  
frome the wax paper

16. Discard the wax paper and toothpick and use a paper towel to clean the test card.

3SM-28

**Task:** At this station, you will be examining the properties of two liquids and their mixture.

**Materials:**

- dropper bottle B
- dropper bottle Y
- test card
- wax paper sheet
- 3 toothpicks
- waste cup
- paper towels

3SM-21

M

#2

**Directions:**

1. Place a sheet of wax paper over the test card.
2. Place three drops of B on the wax paper over the blue circle on the test card.
3. Use a toothpick to examine the properties of B. Record your observations below.
4. Besides the color, describe 2 properties of drop B that you observed.

Soft & sticky

5. Throw the toothpick in the waste cup.
6. Place three drops of Y on the wax paper over the yellow circle on the test card.
7. Use a new toothpick to examine the properties of Y. Record your observations below.
8. Besides the color, describe 2 properties of drop Y that you observed.

It is liquidy it goes threw the paper

9. Throw the toothpick in the waste cup.

Please Continue on the Next Page

#2

10. Place two drops of Y on the wax paper over the yellow and blue circle on the test card. Place two drops of B on top of Y.
11. Use a new toothpick to gently mix the yellow and blue drops. Examine the properties of this new mixture.
12. Answer questions 13 - 15 below.
13. Describe 2 properties of the combined drops that you observed.

it turns green and liguidy  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

14. Is the new mixture more like drop Y or drop B? b

15. Explain your answer to question 4. If you put the  
tooth pick in the Y it would fall  
apart  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

16. Discard the wax paper and toothpick and use a paper towel to clean the test card.

they got wet

# Colored Drops

**Task:** At this station, you will be examining the properties of two liquids and their mixture.

## Materials:

- dropper bottle B
- dropper bottle Y
- test card
- wax paper sheet
- 3 toothpicks
- waste cup
- paper towels

35M-19

F

#3

## Directions:

1. Place a sheet of wax paper over the test card.
2. Place three drops of B on the wax paper over the blue circle on the test card.
3. Use a toothpick to examine the properties of B. Record your observations below.
4. Besides the color, describe 2 properties of drop B that you observed.

it falls and immediately spreads out very liquidly

5. Throw the toothpick in the waste cup.
6. Place three drops of Y on the wax paper over the yellow circle on the test card.
7. Use a new toothpick to examine the properties of Y. Record your observations below.
8. Besides the color, describe 2 properties of drop Y that you observed.

it is in a dome shape when you stick it it does not fall flat

9. Throw the toothpick in the waste cup.

Please Continue on the Next Page

#3

10. Place two drops of Y on the wax paper over the yellow and blue circle on the test card. Place two drops of B on top of Y.
11. Use a new toothpick to gently mix the yellow and blue drops. Examine the properties of this new mixture.
12. Answer questions 13 - 15 below.
13. Describe 2 properties of the combined drops that you observed.

it is green it has flat + spread out

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14. Is the new mixture more like drop Y or drop B? B.

15. Explain your answer to question 4. It spread out like the blue  
did it did not stay up like yellow

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16. Discard the wax paper and toothpick and use a paper towel to clean the test card.