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Raven Hill Discovery Center is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt corporation.

Mission: Raven Hill provides a place that enhances hands-on and lifelong learning for all ages by connecting science, history & the arts.

Swirling milk

Supplies needed are a small plate or saucer, toothpick, a little milk (whole milk works better than my 2% milk), food coloring and some dish soap. Pour a little milk on the plate. Add one drop of each color into the milk at the compass points—north, south, east and west. Get a little soap on the end of the toothpick. Hold the toothpick straight up and put it down in the center of the milk. Hold the toothpick still (DO NOT STIR) for a few seconds and then pull the toothpick straight out. Watch what happens! Get more soap on the toothpick and now put it at the edge of the milk on the plate. What happens? Try different kinds of milk and different temperatures—let the milk you are using sit out a few minutes and warm up. **EXPLANATION:** Soap breaks the surface tension of the milk and makes the fat particles move, causing the colors to swirl.



1 Gather supplies



2 Add food coloring



3 Put soap on toothpick



4. Watch the swirls



5. Soap breaks surface tension

Have fun and always clean up when you are done. **CAUTION:** Have an adult move the plate of milk to the sink, so you don't spill it!