

Name _____



Observing in Science

Purpose: To practice using the scientific skills of qualitative observation, developing questions, and communicating ideas.

Materials:

Whole milk	Flat dish	Dishwashing soap
Food coloring (4 colors)	Toothpick	

What to do:

- Put the dish on a flat surface.
- Fill the dish halfway with whole milk.
- Drop one drop of each color of food coloring into the milk. Use the diagram as a guide.
- Discuss with your partner: *what observations can you make about milk and food coloring?*
- Share your observations with your table.
- Dip one end of the toothpick into the dishwashing soap.
- Touch the milk in the middle of the dish with the soapy end of the toothpick (at the star).
- Now what observations can you and your partner make?*
- Share your observations with your table.
- Think about to yourself: **How** do we observe in science? **Why** do we observe in science? *As we observed the milk, what **questions** came to mind? How can we **find answers** to these questions?*
- Discuss your thoughts with your partner, then your table. **Be prepared to share and discuss your ideas with the class.**

