

JR-SCIENTISTS

FLOATING INK

Can you make ink float? This experiment is so simple and so fascinating!

INSTRUCTIONS:

STEP 1: Make sure the ink flows well in your markers.

STEP 2: Draw simple shapes on your plate.

STEP 3: Slowly pour water into the plate near the edges of your drawings.

SUPPLIES

Expo dry erase markers
Water
Dinner plate

THE SCIENCE

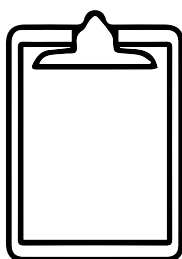
When you draw with the dry-erase markers, it actually looks like the color is sticking. But in fact, there is an oily silicone polymer in the dry-erase marker prevents it from sticking to your plate. The water can then slip underneath, and because the ink is lighter than water it can float.

What happens if you pour rubbing alcohol on top of your drawing instead of water? Does your drawing still float? Do dry-erase and permanent markers give you the same result? Why or why not?



Floating Ink Observations

Use this worksheet to process and evaluate your work.



RECORD

What did you observe?

What is it about dry erase markers that makes them special?

What happens if you pour rubbing alcohol on your drawing instead?

Do dry-erase and permanent markers give you the same result?
