

## FLOATING INK EXPERIMENT

**Materials Needed:** Dry Erase Markers, Pitcher with Water, Non-Porous Surface with Edges (like a glass or ceramic coated plate)

**Instructions:** Gather all your materials. Using the dry erase markers, draw pictures, shapes, letters and/or numbers on the smooth surface of your dish. Let it dry for a few seconds. Slowly pour water on the edge of the dish and watch the shapes slowly lift from the surface.

**Tips:** Use newer markers. The thicker the ink, the better. Let the ink dry slightly before you pour the water, 30 seconds should do the trick. Pour the water slowly into the dish.



1

GATHER  
MATERIALS



2

DRAW  
SHAPES



3

POUR  
WATER

**The Science:** Dry erase markers are insoluble. Insoluble means that they can not be dissolved in water. Dry erase markers also contain a special polymer that prevents them from sticking to smooth, non-porous surfaces. Because the ink is less dense than the water, it pulls away from the surface and floats.