

Mixtures: solutions, suspensions and colloids

- Choose one substance to mix with water.
- Shake hard for 10 seconds, then look at it immediately.
- How does the mixture behave?

baking soda
flour
milk powder
sand
sugar

Can you see particles settling to the bottom?

YES NO

Suspension

In a suspension, one substance forms clumps of particles in the other substance. The clumps are large enough to settle out.

Is the mixture clear?

NO YES

Colloid

In a colloid, one substance forms clumps of particles in the other substance. The clumps are so small that they do not settle out.

Solution

In a solution, the particles of two substances are mixed together completely evenly. Solutions are clear - you can see right through them.