Making Connections – Create a **Rainbow**!

There are so many ways for children and adults to connect! This is a fun science experiment a child can try at home and then use the back of this sheet to write about what happened. They can send this to a parent or adult inside the institution, or talk about it the next time you are on the phone.

What you need:

- Water
- See-through drinking cup
- Light corn syrup
- Olive oil
- Blue dish soap
- Red and green food colouring

What to do:

Use multi-coloured liquids that pile on top of each other to create a rainbow. Do not mix the layers!

Tell the child to make the following mixtures:

- In one cup mix a few drops of green food colouring with ¼ cup water
- In another cup mix a few drops of red food colouring with ¼ cup corn syrup
- ¼ cup of dish soap (your blue liquid)
- ¼ cup of olive oil (your yellow liquid)

Now you are ready to make the rainbow. Get a see-through drinking cup and fill it, in this order:

1. Pour the red corn syrup mix in first
2. Pour the blue dish soap on top of the red corn syrup
3. Pour the green water mix on top of the blue dish soap
4. Lastly, pour the yellow olive oil on top of the green water mix

Ask your child why they think the liquids do not mix. *What's the answer?*
Each liquid has a thickness that's different from the other. This prevents the liquids from mixing together. For example, the red corn syrup sits on the bottom because it is the thickest, and the blue dish soap sits on top of the red corn syrup because it is not as thick as the red corn syrup.

Isn't science amazing? Remember to ask your child what they thought about this activity. Was it fun? Did it work out like they thought it would? Did they make a big mess in the kitchen?

Do they see rainbows outside sometimes? *Where do real rainbows come from?* They are made when white sunlight passes through rain drops which act like tiny prisms bending the light so it spreads into many colours.

Cool, right? Have fun with your child learning science!

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