

# Solutions, Colloids, and Suspensions

## Enrichment Activity

**Skills:** *interpreting tables, comparing, applying concepts*

The table below summarizes the various properties of solutions, colloids, and suspensions. Study the table. Then, answer the questions that follow.

SOLUTIONS, COLLOIDS, AND SUSPENSIONS			
Property	Solution	Colloid	Suspension
Particle type	atoms, ions, molecules	small particles that bump into molecules of the surrounding material	large clusters of particles
Particles visible with microscope	no	no	yes
Particles settle on standing	no	no	yes
Particles separate by filtering	no	no	yes
Particles scatter light	no	yes	yes
Examples	salt water	fog, smoke	muddy water

- Name two properties that make solutions different from colloids. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Name three properties that solutions and colloids have in common. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What property do colloids and suspensions have in common? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- If the label on product X has “Shake before using,” do you think product X is a solution, a colloid, or a suspension? Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Why can you see the beam of a car’s headlights in the fog, but not in clear air? \_\_\_\_\_  
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