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# Particles That Neither Dissolve Nor Sink: Colloids

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Pour milk into a glass, and the white liquid looks evenly mixed, as if something had completely dissolved in it. But the fat and protein in milk are not scattered molecule by molecule the way salt dissolves in water; instead, they float in the water as extremely tiny clumps. These clumps are small enough that they do not easily settle even after standing for a long time. A mixture in this in-between state, neither dissolved nor settling, is called a “colloid.” Put simply, a colloid refers to a state in which particles too small to see are evenly dispersed and suspended in another substance. Ma