



Chromatography butterfly craft

From 3 years up

Chromatography is the process by which soluble (dissolve in water) substances separate into different parts – we can see what colours are mixed together to make other colours.

You will need: Non-permanent markers, white coffee filters, pencil, cups of water, pipe cleaners, string, scissors

1. Choose one marker to experiment with first. (Hint - black or brown are the most exciting!)
2. Take one coffee filter. Put it on a newspaper to protect your table. Draw a thick circle around the centre of the coffee filter.
3. Fold the coffee filter in half and then in half again into a cone shape. Place the tip of the cone into some water in a short glass or jar. **Be sure NOT to let the marker circle go in the water, just the uncoloured tip of the coffee filter cone.**
4. Let it sit and watch what happens as the water begins to flow up the paper.
5. Repeat with different coloured markers.
6. After the water has reached the outer edge of the coffee filter, place it on a newspaper to dry.



Making the butterfly

1. Take one coffee filter and scrunch it up in the middle.
2. Wrap a pipe cleaner around the centre.
3. Shape the ends to form antennae.
4. Tie a string around the centre and hang.



Bringing nature nearer