

Chromatography Craft

Do you drink coffee? Then grab some filters for this craft. If you're looking for an alternative try tissue or paper towels.

Intention: Great way for kids to explore Chromatography.

What colors do you see? How many colors do you see? Which one do you find most interesting? Why?

Materials:

- Coffee Filters
- Non Permanent Markers
- Pencil
- Cups of water
- String
- Scissors

Instructions:

- Choose one marker to experiment with first. (Hint~ black and brown are the most exciting!)

- Take one coffee filter. Put it on a newspaper or some kind of material to protect your table. Draw a thick circle around the center of the coffee filter where the ridged part meets the flat center. Use a pencil to write the color of the marker being used right in the center. (You'll want to know what the original color was being used, and the pencil won't smear and will remain intact after the experiment.)

- Fold the coffee filter in half and then in half again, resulting in a cone shape.

- Get a short glass of water. Pull apart the cone shaped coffee filter so it balances right on the glass with the tip of the cone just touching the water. (Be sure NOT to let the marker circle go in the water, just the uncolored tip of the coffee filter cone.)

- Let it sit and watch what happens as the water begins to flow up the paper.



- Repeat with different colored markers.
- After the water has reached the outer edge of the coffee filter, place it on a newspaper to dry and observe the results.

Do you have pipe cleaners? Yes, Butterflies!

1. Cut your black pipe cleaners in half.
2. Take one coffee filter and scrunch it up in the middle.
3. Wrap a black pipe cleaner around the center.
4. Shape the ends to form antennae.
5. Tie a string to the center and hang!

No? Find a stick, twig or pencil. Flowers!

1. Take a coffee filter and trim off any white edges.
2. Fold the coffee filter in half four different times.
3. Use scissors to round the edge.
4. Open up your coffee filter.
5. Bunch it up and press the center together to form a mini stem. Wrap it with **clear tape**.
6. Use clear tape to tape your flower to a stick or twig.
7. Make a whole bouquet to display or give it to someone special!

We would love to see how you're getting crafty at home!
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