Chromatography

What You Need

coffee filter

scissors

markers in black and your choice of 2 or 3 other colours

2 clear glasses

water

tape

What You Do

- 1. Cut the coffee filter into strips about 10 cm long by 2 to 3 cm wide.
- 2. Take the black marker and draw a horizontal line or a round dot about 1.5 cm up from one end of the filter strip.
- 3. Repeat with the other colours you chose.
- 4. Tape two filter strips onto one marker, as shown in the video.
- 5. Hold the marker with the strips next to the glass.
- 6. Fill the glass with water to where only the tips of the filter strips would be in the water.
- 7. Repeat with the second glass.
- 8. Place the marker on top of the glass so the filter strips are just touching the water. The dot or line should be above the water.
- 9. Leave the filter paper in the water and watch what happens.
- 10. The process should take from 3 to 5 minutes to complete.
- 11. Take the filter paper strips out of the water and set them on the counter or table. Observe the changes.