

Chromatography



You will need:

1. Water
2. 3 clear glasses
3. 1 coffee filter
4. 3 pencils
5. Tape
6. Markers (3 colours)
7. Scissors

1. Cut 3 strips from your coffee filter.
2. Tape the strips to the pencils, one for each.
3. Draw a line with the markers onto the strips (a thick line across an inch above the bottom). Make sure each paper strip has only one colour on them!
4. Fill your glasses with water so that it will touch the bottom of the paper only.
5. Hang your papers in the glasses and wait for the colours to separate!

The science behind:

Chromatography is a way of separating out a mixture of chemicals, which are in gas or liquid form, by letting them creep slowly past another substance, which is typically a liquid or solid.

So in our case we had the ink (liquid) dissolved in water creeping over the surface of the paper (solid).