

Whitney Water Center Learning from Home

Episode 8: Chromatography

Introduction

Paper *chromatography* is a method used to separate color chemicals or substances. *Capillary action* pulls the water through the paper and as the water travels, it takes the color chemicals (molecules) with it. The water deposits the color on the paper as it travels; the heavier color chemicals are dropped closer to the center of the paper and the lighter ones are carried further away from the center. We are going to paper chromatography to separate the ink from a black magic marker and see what colors were mixed to create the marker.

Experiment 1: Paper Chromatography

Materials

- Coffee filter
- Black magic marker (not a permanent marker)
- Water
- Sponge

Extension

Repeat the experiment using the secondary colors, orange, purple and green.

Link to video

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/scctrwa/videos/2626968700959347/>

YouTube: <https://youtu.be/46V5aFECy7M>