



# GATEWAY REGION YMCA CHROMATOGRAPHY

We can think about mixed colors as the colors 'dissolving' into each other. Similarly, we can try to separate this mixture out. This is called chromatography.

## Supply List

- Coffee filter
- Black marker
- Tall cup
- Water

## Instructions

1. For this separation we need a stationary and active piece. The water will be active which we can add to our cup
2. The coffee filter will be our stationary piece. This is where we will place the color
  - a. Cut into a long rectangular strip
  - b. Cut an arrow at the end
  - c. Above the arrow, draw a dot of black marker and mark it with a pencil 'starting line'
  - d. Tape the paper to a pencil and allow to hang into a cup
3. Place the coffee filter in the jar or the paper taped to a pencil (only allow the tip of the paper to touch.)
  - a. Remember capillary action  
the water moves up the paper on its own (like trees!) and different colors will move with it depending on their solubility.

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