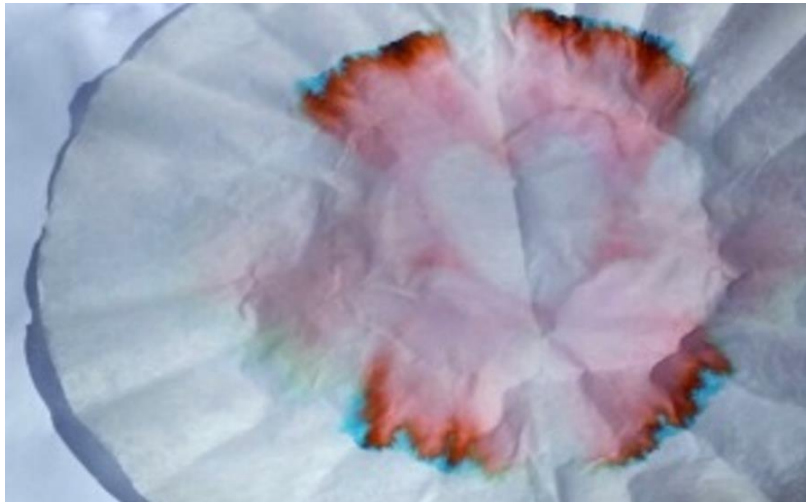




Coffee Filter Chromatography



Activity:

Discover how many colors it takes to make the ink in a black marker look black.

Supplies:

- coffee filter
- small glass or cup
- water
- black washable marker (Crayola or other brand)

Instructions:

1. Fill the glass or cup with a shallow layer of water (1/4 -1/3 of the cup)
2. Flatten out the coffee filter and draw a thick circle around the middle of the filter where the ridged part meets the center
3. Fold the coffee filter in half 2 times to make a cone shape
4. Dip just the tip of the middle of the coffee filter into the cup of water
5. Watch as the water gets soaked up through the filter
6. Observe which colors the black ink broke down into
7. Talk about why you think it takes more than one color to make black ink look black.
8. Try the experiment with a different brand of marker to see if the colors are different

Sources:

<https://deerfield.macaronikid.com/articles/5826504224d8f4da3aafb36e/paper-chromatography-coffee-filters>