

LEAF CHROMATOGRAPHY

Name: _____

SUPERSTARWORKSHEETS

QUESTION:

Do leaves of different colors contain different pigments?

HYPOTHESIS:



MATERIALS:

- ☐ 3 leaves (green, yellow, red/orange)
- ☐ 3 small jars
- ☐ rubbing alcohol
- ☐ coffee filter strips (1" wide)
- ☐ 3 pencils
- ☐ tape
- ☐ coin or spoon
- ☐ scissors (adult supervision required)



PROCEDURE:

1. Tear each leaf into small pieces. Place each color in its own labeled jar.
2. Pour rubbing alcohol into each jar to just cover the leaf pieces.
3. Crush the leaves against the jar bottom with a coin or spoon until alcohol turns colored.
4. Wait 30 minutes for pigments to dissolve.
5. Cut coffee filter strips 1" wide x 6" long. Tape each to a pencil.
6. Rest each pencil across a jar so the strip bottom just touches the liquid.
7. Wait 30-60 minutes and observe. Do not disturb the jars.
8. Remove strips, let dry, and record observations.

FINAL OBSERVATIONS:

Leaf #1: Green

Leaf #2: Yellow

Leaf #3: Red / Orange

CONCLUSION: