tinkering at home

at home discoveries

"tie dye" chromatography



This is a quick, easy activity (great for young learners) that demonstrates chromatography right before your eyes!

Materials

- A small cup of water
- A coffee filter
- Washable markers



Instructions

1. Select a few of your favorite colors of markers and color a target shape on the coffee filter. Feel free to experiment with different combinations of color, but try not to oversaturate the coffee



2. Once you're finished coloring your coffee filter, fold it in half three times until it looks like a little slice of pie







- 3. Dip the point of the folded coffee filter in the water for three seconds, then lift it up, with the tip of the coffee filter pointed up towards the ceiling. Watch as the water separates the color throughout the filter, creating a tie-dye effect. Wait for the filter to dry, and you can keep it as a cool creation on its own, or you can use it to create another craft, like a paper flower or paper butterfly.
 - If you have a blow-dryer, you can use it to quickly dry your project. If not, just hang it up and let it drip dry!









