



# CANDY CHROMATOGRAPHY



## MATERIALS:

- Coffee filter (round)
- Paper plate
- Color-coated candy in different colors
- Warm water
- Safety glasses

## PROCEDURE:

1. Put on the safety glasses.
2. Place a coffee filter on a paper plate.
3. Place different colored candies on the coffee filter at least one inch apart.
4. Dip your finger into some warm water and release droplets above each candy.
5. Watch as the dye begins to transfer to the coffee filter.
6. Let the candy sit for a few minutes and then drop additional water on top of each candy.

What do you see?

## WHAT THIS MEANS:

Some candy colors are the result of a single food coloring and others may use a combination of dyes to create the right color. Coffee filter paper absorbs water easily. The different chemicals (colored dyes) in the candy are soluble, or dissolve, in water. When water soaks into the paper, the colors dissolve, and in some cases, separate.

## GLOSSARY:

**Chromatography:** A process for separating different components from a mixture.

**Dye:** A natural or synthetic substance used to add color or to change the color of something

**Soluble:** (of a substance) able to be dissolved, especially in water

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