

How To...

Day 31: Create some candy chromatography

Did you know you can use chromatography to separate the different colours in the coating of colourful candy? This fun science experiment is perfect for learning about separating mixtures and can even be used as a science and art activity too!



Instructions

1. Use M & Ms, Skittles or other coloured sweets.
2. Place the sweets onto a plate. It's a good idea to use different colour sweets, so you can easily compare the results.
3. Carefully use a pipette to drop water onto the sweets and leave for a few minutes, until colour from the sweets dissolves into the water.
4. Use a pipette to suck up the coloured water and carefully drop onto the bottom of a strip of filter paper.
5. If you don't have filter paper, try using kitchen roll instead.
6. Use one strip for each colour of sweet.
7. Thread a paper clip through the filter papers and leave to rest in a test tube of water with just the bottom of the paper in the water.
8. If you don't have a test tube, a mug of water would work if you place the strips carefully.
9. Leave for about 10 minutes and observe what happens
10. The filter paper shows different colour bands because the colouring on the candy shells is a mixture of colours.

<https://www.science-sparks.com/candy-chromatography/>