



COLOR BURST

Summer Science Fun

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EXPLORER ACTIVITY SHEET

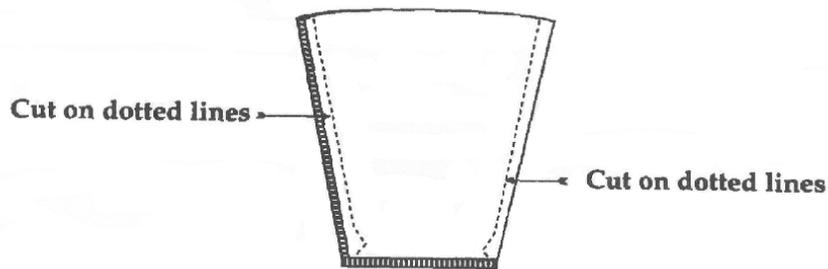
You Will Need

- 18-ounce, wide-mouth plastic cup filled with a half inch (1 cm) of water
- coffee filters (#6 size) or similar size
- black, water-soluble marker (nonpermanent markers for overheads work best)
- scissors
- pencil
- 2-3 paper towels
- your science journal, a notebook, or lined paper

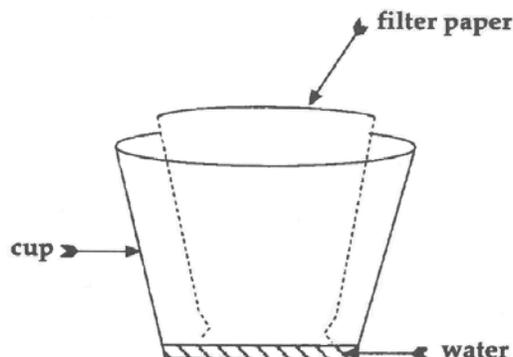


What to Do

- With a pencil, draw dotted lines on the coffee filter, as shown below.
- Cut the filter on the dotted lines. Your filter should still be in one piece.



- Using the black marker, decorate both sides of the filter with a very simple design of dots, lines, or other markings. Be sure not to mark the ribbed bottom edge.
- Place your filter in the cup of water as shown in the picture below. Only the ribbed edge should touch the water.





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- Allow the filter to sit undisturbed. Check at regular intervals to see what is happening and record your observations in your science journal.
- Once the water level has risen to the top of the paper, remove the filter from the cup, and gently open the filter. What do you see? Answer the following questions in your science journal:
 1. What happened to the black ink? Where is it on the filter paper?
 2. What colors do you see on the filter after you open it up?
 3. What shape is the coffee filter when you open it up?
 4. What happened in this activity that you didn't expect or that was different from what you expected?
 5. Is the shape of the coffee filter important? What would happen if the shape were different? Try it.
 6. Do you think the same thing would happen if you used a red ink? Green ink? Purple ink? Try it.
 7. Will other colored liquids act the same as the inks? How about food coloring? Other kinds of inks?
 8. What would happen if you repeated the activity using the pigment of a brightly colored leaf, such as a coleus? How would you get the pigment on the coffee filter? Try it.
 9. Does this activity suggest any other questions to you? What are they? How do you think you can find the answers?

Communicating Science

In your science journal, write a report on what you learned in this activity and on your further explorations. Share your results with your friends. If they also have done the activity, how are their results the same as yours? How are they different?