

Chromatography CSI

I can identify a mixture by observing its components.
I can explain how evidence is used to support or refute ideas.



Follow these instructions to use chromatography to analyse the evidence from the spelling test.

- Cut a small strip from the spelling test. Make sure the writing on the note is about 1 cm from the bottom of the strip.
- Dip this strip of paper into a Petri dish of water. Ensure that the water does not touch the writing.
- Observe the pattern created by the mixture of chemicals in the ink as they separate and spread over the paper.

Then test each of the six pens used by the children who didn't put their names on their tests.

- Use each pen to draw an ink spot on a strip of filter paper. The ink spot should be about 1cm from the bottom of the strip.
- Dip each strip in another Petri dish of water, again making sure that the water does not touch the ink spots.
- Observe the different patterns from each ink spot. Which one matches the pattern produced by the writing on the spelling test?

Record your results by drawing or sticking the dried strips of paper from your chromatography tests in the table below.

Evidence from the spelling test	Children					
	Abdul	Ben	Carlos	Deborah	Eddie	Fatima

Look at the patterns created by the chemicals in each ink as they separated. Which child's pen matches the ink on the spelling test?
