

# Chromatography With Leaves

1. Take 2-3 large leaves (or the equivalent with smaller leaves), tear them into tiny pieces, and place them into small jars with lids.
2. Add enough alcohol or acetone to just cover the leaves.
3. Loosely cover the jars and set them into a shallow pan containing an inch or so of hot tap water.
4. Let the jars sit in the hot water for at least a 30 min.
5. The jars are 'done' when the solvent has picked up color from the leaves. The darker the color, the brighter the chromatogram will be.
6. Cut a long strip of filter paper and printer paper for each jar. Label each with your name and paper type.
7. Place each strip of paper into each jar, with one end in the alcohol or acetone and the other outside of the jar.
8. As the alcohol or acetone evaporates, it will pull the pigment up the paper, separating pigments according to size (largest will move the shortest distance).
9. After 30-90 minutes (or until the desired separation is obtained), remove the strips of paper and allow them to dry.

