

**CRIME SCENE**  
**CHROMATOGRAPHY**  
**WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

# CRIME SCENE CHROMATOGRAPHY

## WE NEED YOUR HELP!

A famous painting has been stolen from the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge. The thief left a note at the scene mocking the police and saying that they plan to strike again!

Without knowing it, the culprit has left a clue in the note... it's in the ink! Black ink is often made from a mixture of other coloured inks. The inks will dissolve in water and move through filter paper at different rates, separating out into coloured bands. Each different brand of pen has its own unique fingerprint. We have managed to take the favourite pens from each of three key suspects and if we can find the ink that matches the ink used on the letter, we will find the culprit.

Follow the instructions to test the inks and find out who stole the painting!

### THE SUSPECTS:

#### Suspect 1: Damien Heist

Damien has been seen acting suspiciously around the museum as of late. Did he have a part to play in the theft?

#### Suspect 2: Leonardo da Pinchi

Leonardo has a history of pinching other people's paintings. Was he the criminal mastermind?

#### Suspect 3: Vincent van Gone

Vincent is a known collector of fine art. Does he need to do time for the crime?

### WHAT YOU NEED TO DO:

1. Draw a spot along the line of the filter paper with each of the suspect's pens.
2. Staple the ends of the filter paper together without allowing them to touch (we can help with this).
3. Place the paper into the container so that the marker spots are above the water.
4. Leave the paper in the water until the patterns become clear.
5. Compare the ink pattern from the pen found at the crime scene with the three suspect's pens.
6. Tell us who committed the crime!

*"This is just the first of many items I am going to take...how much of a detective are you?!"*

*Who stole the painting,  
circle the suspect  
number?*

1      2      3