Ink test sheet

Evidence Keeper's stamp

Copy this page, or print it from doalongstem.com. Guess first. Then test.

1 Can you tell the markers apart?

Test	My guess	What I saw	Colors?
1  **Magnifier**			yes / no
2  **Dot in the water**			yes / no
3  **Dot above the water**			yes / no

2 Which marker matches the note?

Marker	My guess	Colors I see	Match?
Marker 1 whose?			◯
Marker 2 whose?			◯
Marker 3 whose?			◯

Now test a strip from the note the same way. Circle the marker whose colors match.

Evidence Keeper's cheat sheet

Grown-ups: ink can surprise you. Here is what to do.

If this happens	Do this
The colors don't move at all	It may be a permanent marker; those don't run in water. Use washable markers.
The dot washes into the cup	Pour out some water. The water must stay below the pencil line.
The water stops climbing	Give it 5 to 10 minutes. Make sure the strip doesn't touch the side of the cup.
Two markers look the same	Some brands use the same ink. Try a different brand.
The strip flops over	Tape the top of the strip to a pencil laid across the cup.
Ink on fingers or clothes	Washable marker comes off with soap and water.
Your scientist wants to try something new	Say yes! Try a brown or green marker, and tape the new strip in the case file.

When you're done, lay the strips flat to dry. They make a great case file.