

Activity 1.1: The Visible Spectrum

You will need:

A paper tube, a CD, some scissors, sticky tape, card.

Step 1

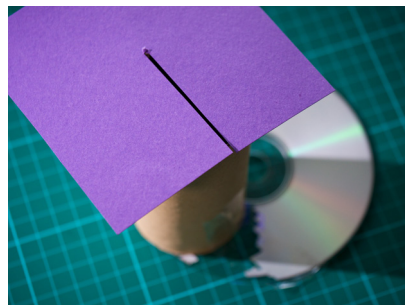
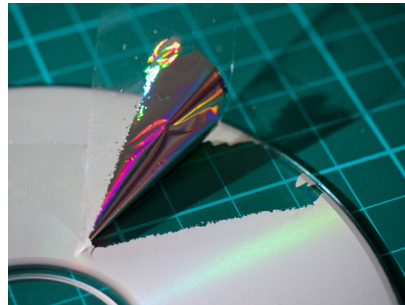
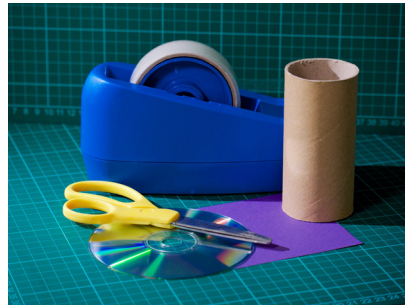
Make a scratch on the printed side of the CD and peel off the coating using sticky tape.

Step 2

Cut a thin slice out of the card.

Step 3

Tape the tube to a section of the CD which has had the coating removed, then tape the card to the other end of the tube.



Adult supervision

Be careful when using the scissors to scratch the CD and cut the card.

Never look directly at the sun; even when using the spectroscope.

The BIG questions

Can you work as a family to answer these BIG questions?

- You have made a **spectroscope**. Can you describe the colours you can see?
- Where else do you see rainbows?
- Where do you think the colours are coming from?
- The colours you can see are called the visible spectrum. Can you think of a way of remembering them?
- What happens when you look at different types of lights with the spectroscope? Do you see any differences?
- This technique is called spectroscopy. How might scientists use it?