

SEEING UNDER THE GROUND USING COFFEE GROUNDS

Big Idea

Can we do something with coffee grounds besides composting it?

When I first started brewing everyday at school, I dumped the coffee grounds into a beaker. I didn't think much of it.

But then, as the beaker filled up, I began seeing this: differences in color in the grinds. This is due to the differences in roasting for the beans I use. Some beans had a lighter roast; some had a darker roast.

But, when you pour them over each other, you see **layers** - and this, is an awesome way to show students what sedimentary layers of rock looks like.

Instructions

1. Find a large glass jar or beaker.
2. Drink dark coffee for a couple of weeks and dump grounds into beaker each time. Try to build up a layer that is a couple of centimeters thick. To figure out what coffee is dark, refer to the chart below
3. Drink a lighter roast coffee for a couple of weeks and dump grounds into beaker each time. Build a thick layer of grounds.
4. Switch back to darker roast. This way, you'll see different layers over time.

