



## Chlorophyll Leaf Rubbings

### Experiment

**Chlorophyll** is the green coloring in leaves that absorbs the sun's energy and produces food (carbohydrates) from the carbon dioxide and water.

#### Try this experiment.

1. Gather green leaves from outside and even from the refrigerator or garden. Yes, lettuce and spinach also use photosynthesis to make food.
2. Gather some white paper.
3. Draw an outline of a tree.
4. Crumble up the leaves and rub on your tree or use a teaspoon to crush the leaves onto the paper.
5. The chlorophyll should be rubbing off on the paper.
6. When you are finished, answer these observations about your scientific investigation.
  - A. Which leaf released the most chlorophyll?
  - B. Which leaf released the least amount of chlorophyll?
  - C. Why do you think the results were different between these leaves?
  - D. Which worked best-pressing the leaf with the spoon or crumbling the leaf? Why do you think so?



