## Supplementary data

## *C*<sub>3v</sub>-Symmetric anion receptors with guanidine recognition motifs for ratiometric sensing of fluoride

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Scheme S1. Synthesis of trindane tricarboxylic ester scaffold (*reference no. 26 may be referred for reagents used*).



Fig. S1a. MALDI-TOF mass spectrum of 3.



**Fig. S1b.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of receptor **3** in DMSO- $d_6$  (400 MHz, \*DMSO, $\bullet$ H<sub>2</sub>O).



Fig. S2a. MALDI-TOF mass spectrum of 4.



**Fig. S2b.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of receptor **4** in DMSO- $d_6$  (400 MHz,  $\bullet$ H<sub>2</sub>O).



**Fig. S3a.** Fitting of absorption titration data of **3** during the estimation of binding constant of **3**.F<sup>-</sup>.



**Fig. S3b.** Fitting of absorption titration data of **4** during the estimation of binding constant of **4**.F<sup>-</sup>.



**Fig. S4.** Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectral changes of a DMSO- $d_6$  solution of **4** (4 mM) upon addition of TBAF.



Fig. S5. Fluorescence intensity of receptor 3 (10  $\mu$ M) with various TBA anion salts (1000  $\mu$ M) in DMSO ( $\lambda_{ex}$ =299 nm).



**Fig. S6.** Reversibility test of **4**: fluorescence turn-on at 410 nm in presence of TBAF and NaOH, and reversed back upon addition of HCl.



Fig. S7. Calibration curve for the determination of F<sup>-</sup> detection limit of 4.



Fig. S8. Water tolerance of 4 (5  $\mu$ M) containing 50 equivalents of TBAF.

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