

## Supporting Information

### **A “turn-on” fluorescence sensing for sensitively detecting Cr(VI) via a guest exchange process in Cu NCs@MIL-101 composites**

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Table S1 Comparison of fluorescent methods for the detection of Cr(VI) in terms of linear range and the limit of detection (LOD).

System	Mode	Linear range ( $\mu\text{M}$ )	Detection limits ( $\mu\text{M}$ )	Ref.
GSH-Au NCs	Turn-off	0.017-1.7	0.0017	[1]
Lys/BSA-Ag/AuNCs	Turn-off	0.003-0.11	0.00037	[2]
Cys-Cu NCs	Turn-off	0.2-60	0.065	[3]
11-MUA-AuNCs	Turn-off	-	-	[4]
GSH@CDs-Cu NCs	Ratiometric fluorescent	2-40	0.9	[5]
Cysteamine-Au/Cu NCs	Turn-off	0.2-100	0.08	[6]
Thiosalicylic acid/Cysteamine-Cu NCs	Turn-off	0.1-1000	0.03	[7]
Cu NCs@TA	Turn-off	0.03-60	0.005	[8]
TSA/BSA-Cu NCs	Turn-off	0.05-0.4	0.0035	[9]
Au NCs-CDs	Turn-off	0-10	0.005	[10]
Cu NCs@MIL-101	Turn-on	0.05-1 $\mu\text{M}$ and 1-20 $\mu\text{M}$	0.05	This work

Table S2 The content of Cu in Cu NCs@MIL-101 before and after reaction with Cr(VI).

Material	Weight percentage	Atomic percentage
Cu NCs@MIL-101 before reaction with Cr(VI)	0.09	0.02
Cu NCs@MIL-101 after reaction with Cr(VI)	0.00	0.00

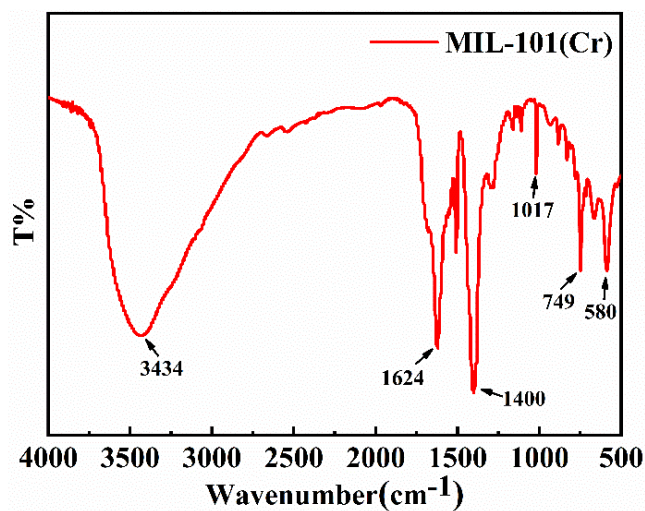


Fig S1 FT-IR spectra of the MIL-101(Cr).

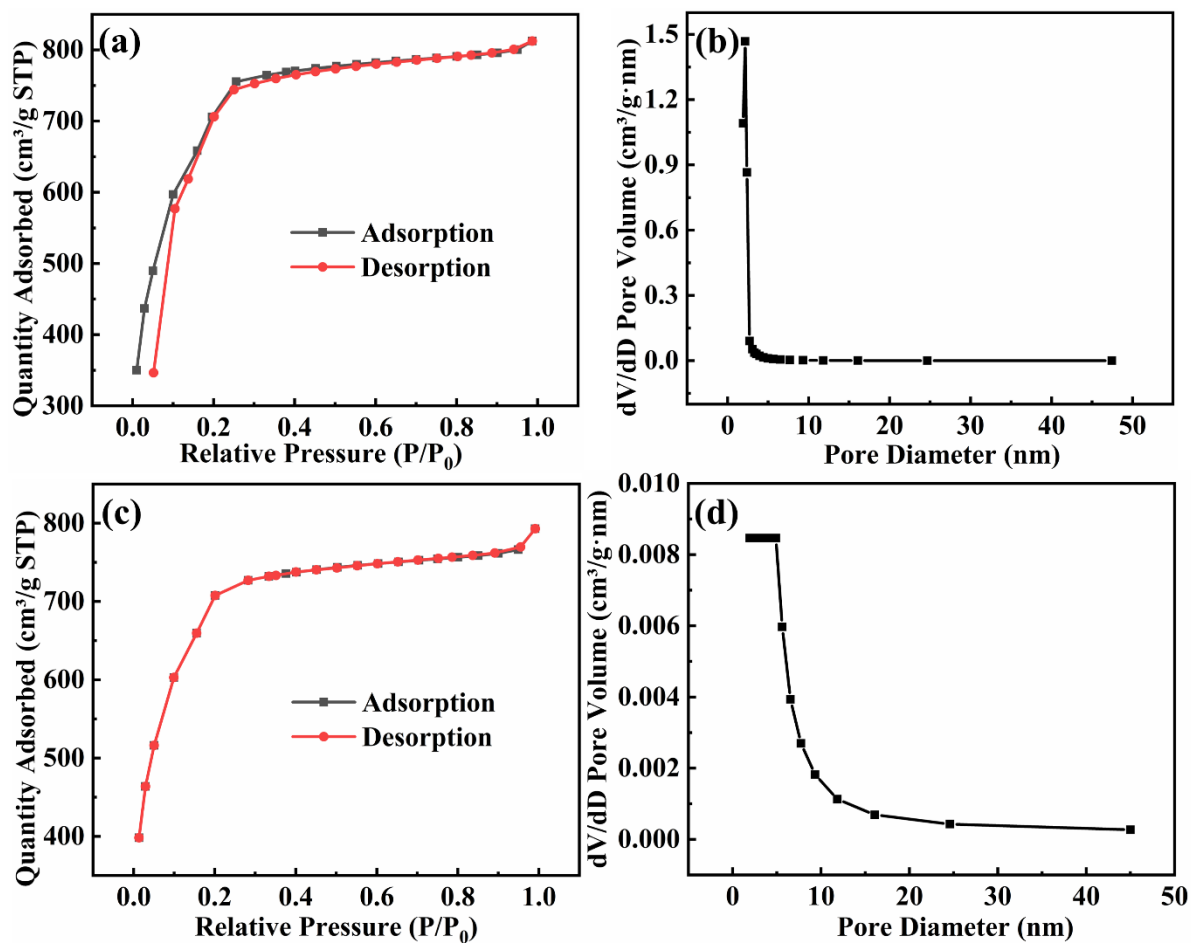


Fig.S2. N<sub>2</sub> adsorption/desorption isotherm of MIL-101(Cr) (a) and Cu NCs@MIL-101 (c), Pore size distributions of MIL-101(Cr) (b) and Cu NCs@MIL-101 (d).

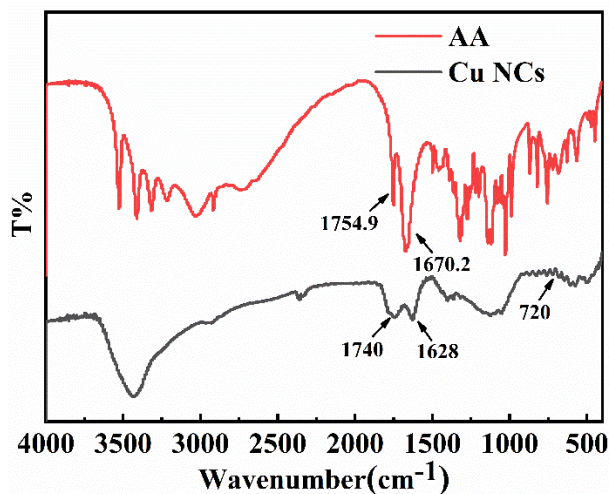


Fig. S3. FT-IR spectra of the AA and Cu NCs.

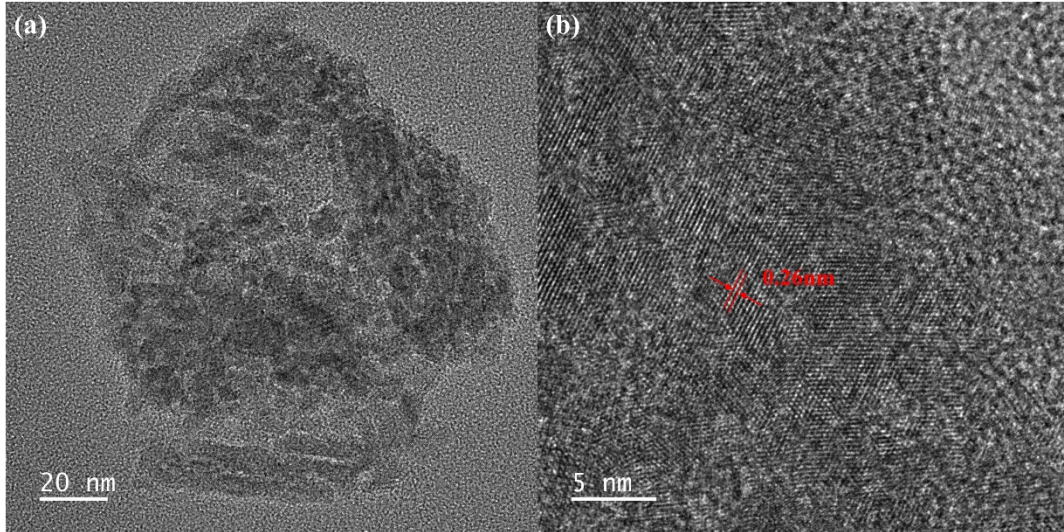


Fig. S4. TEM image (a) and HRTEM image (b) of the Cu NCs.

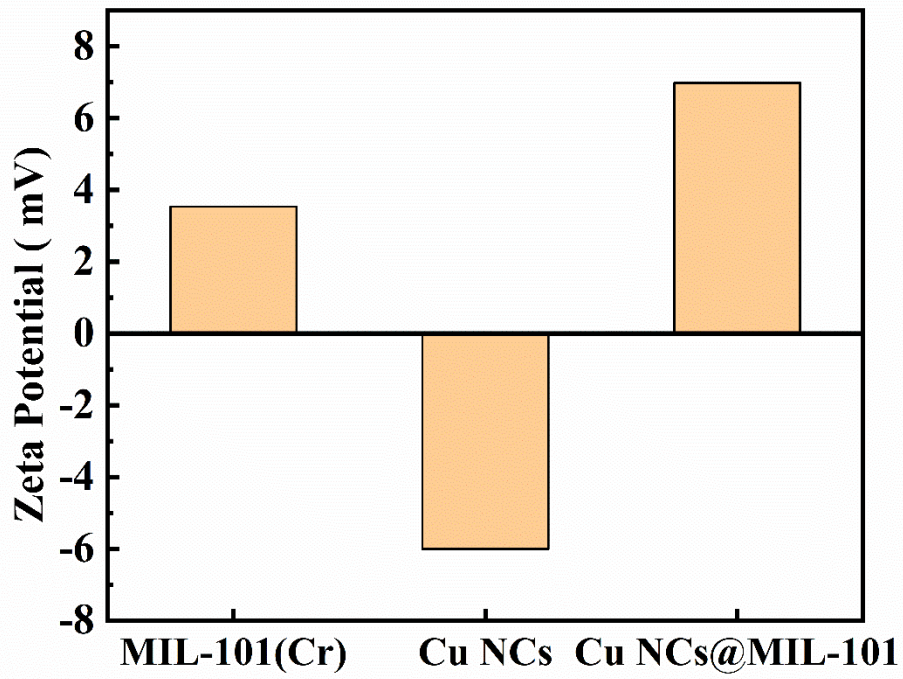


Fig.S5 The zeta potential of MIL-101(VI), Cu NCs and Cu NCs@MIL-101.

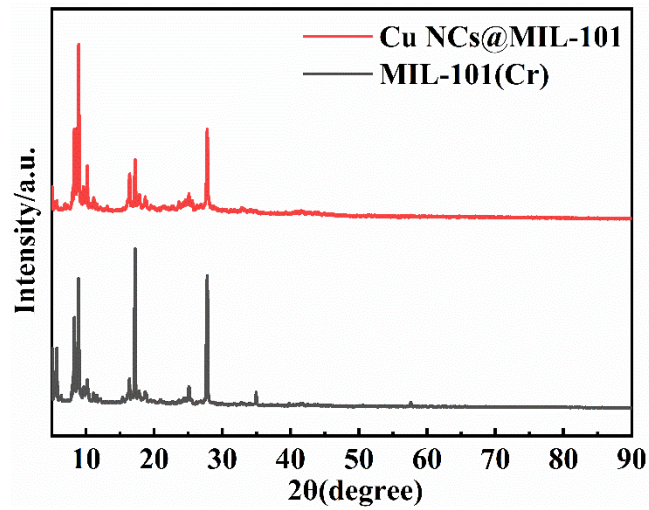


Fig S6 The XRD patterns of the Cu NCs@MIL-101 and MIL-101(Cr).

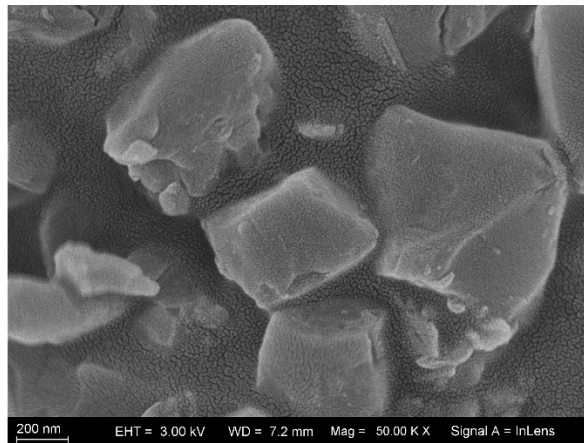


Fig S7 SEM image of Cu NCs@MIL-101.

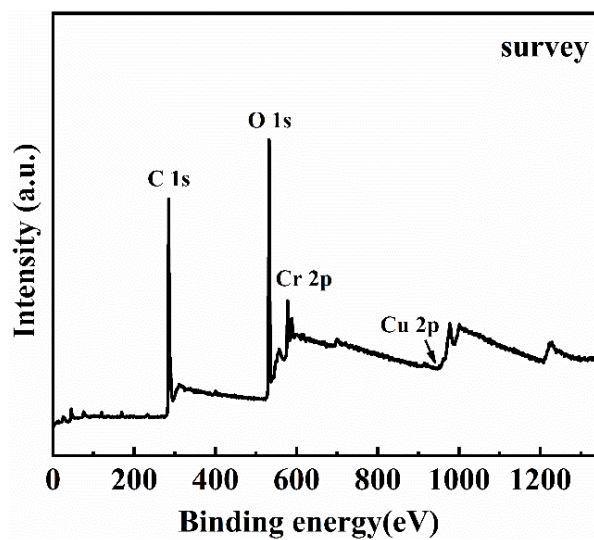


Fig S8 The XPS survey spectrum of the prepared Cu NCs@MIL-101(Cr).

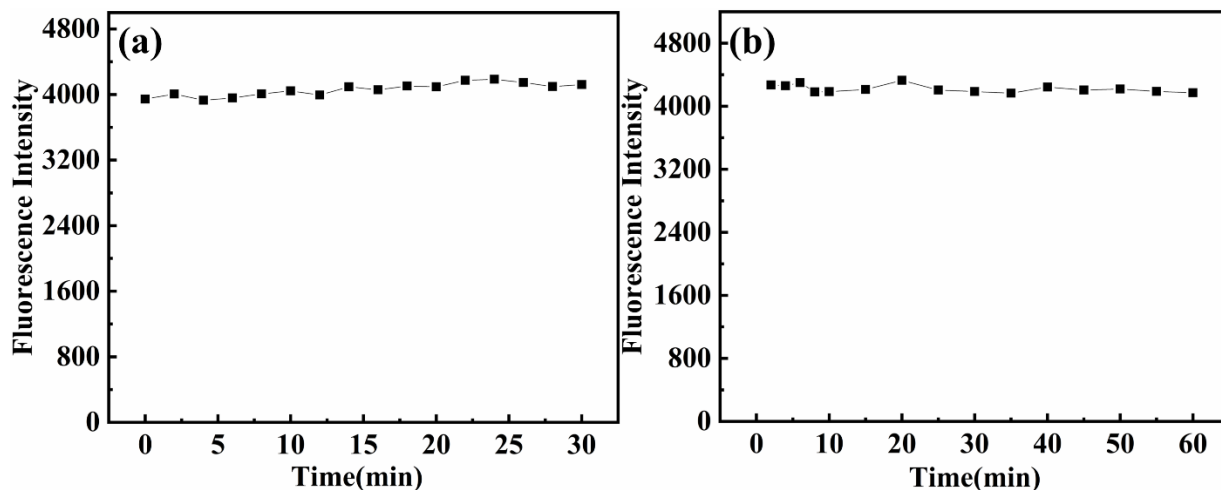


Fig.S9 (a) Photostability of the Cu NCs@MIL-101. Irradiation source: 150 W Xe lamp. (b) Variation of fluorescence intensity of Cu NCs@MIL-101 with time

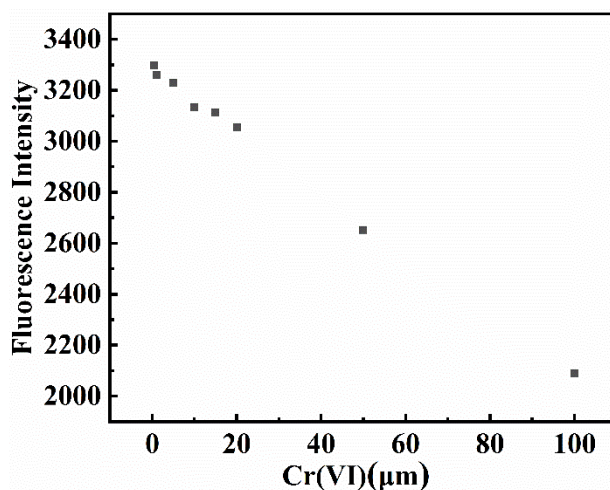


Fig S10 The Fluorescence response of Cu NCs alone interact with Cr(VI).

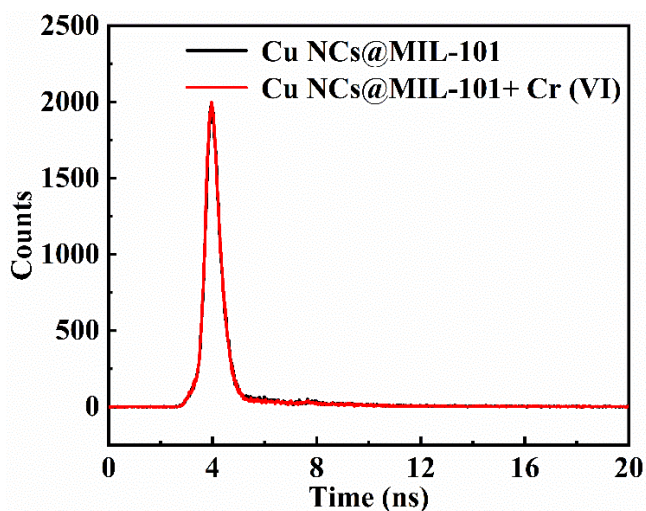


Fig S11 The fluorescence lifetime decay curves of Cu NCs@MIL-101 with and without Cr(VI).

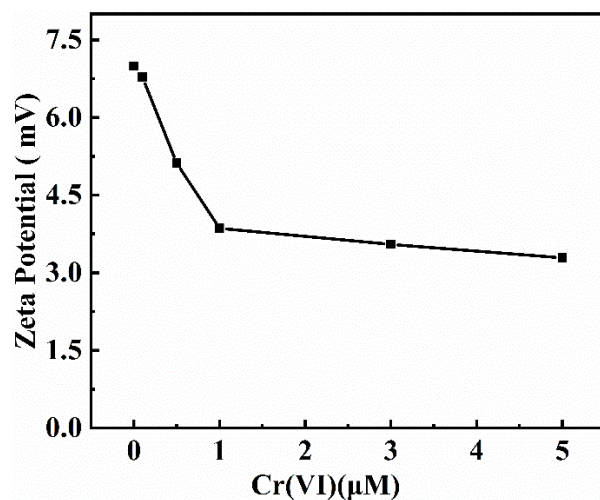


Fig.S12 The zeta potential of Cu NCs@MIL-101 under different concentrations of Cr(VI) ranging from 0.0 to 5.0.

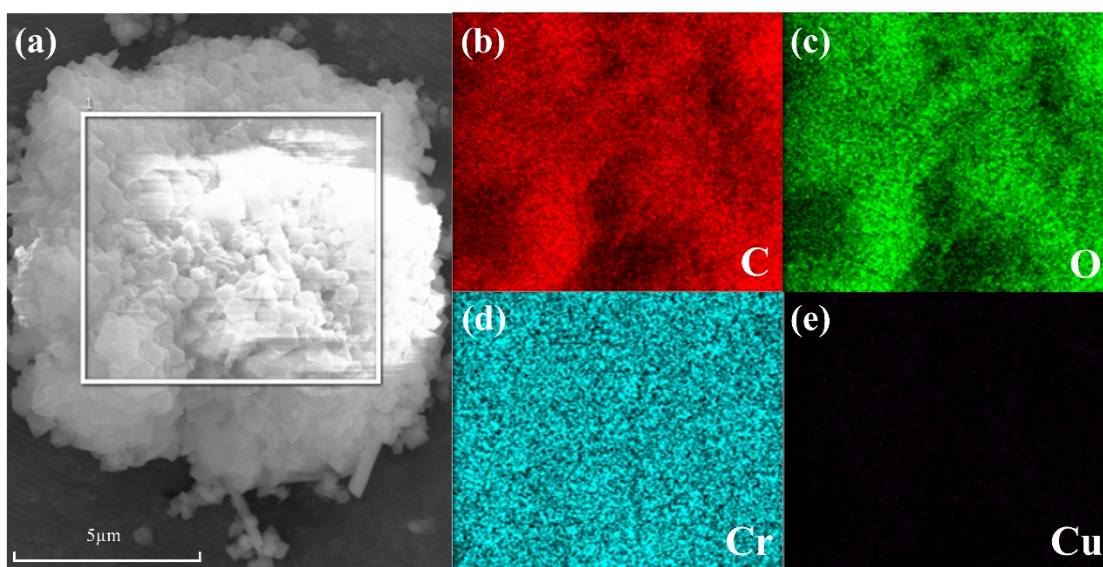


Fig S13 (a) SEM images of Cu NCs@MIL-101. (b-e) EDS images of C, O, Cr and Cu elements in Cu NCs@MIL-101 after reaction with Cr(VI).

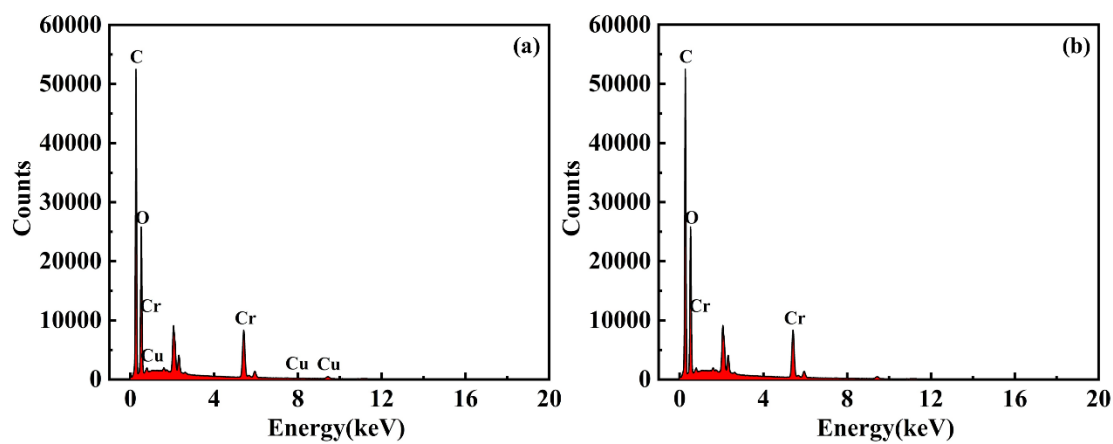


Fig. S14 SEM-EDS analysis result of Cu NCs@MIL-101 (a) and after reaction with Cr(VI) (b).

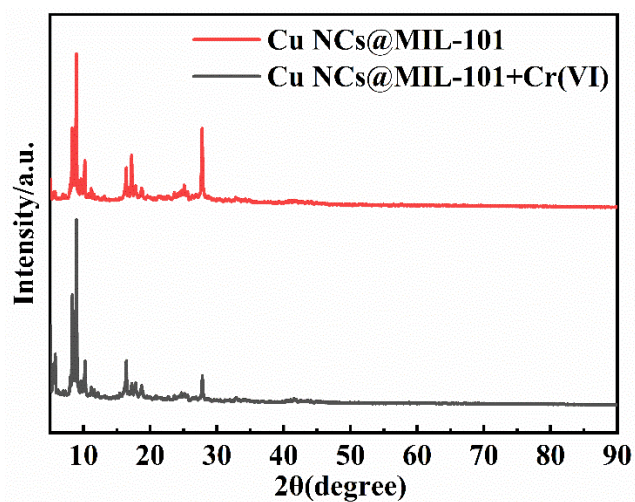


Fig S15 The XRD patterns of the Cu NCs@MIL-101 with and without Cr(VI).

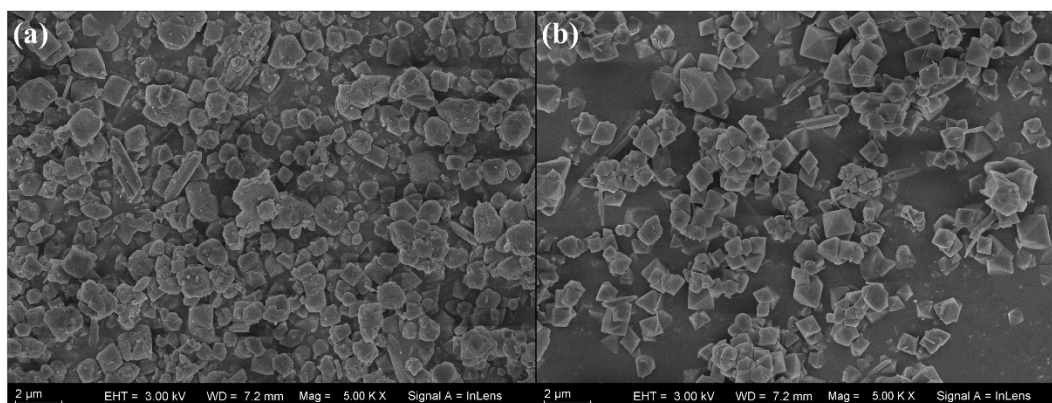


Fig S16 SEM image of Cu NCs@MIL-101 before (a) and after (b) reaction with Cr(VI).

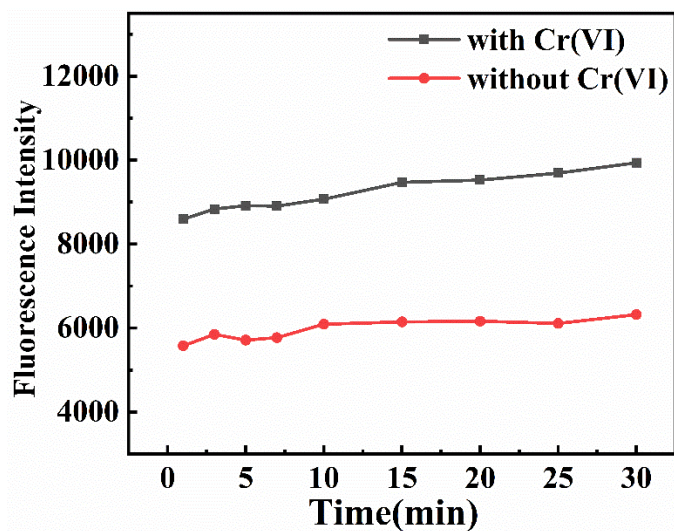


Fig S17 The reaction kinetic between the Cu NCs@MIL-101 pair and Cr(VI).



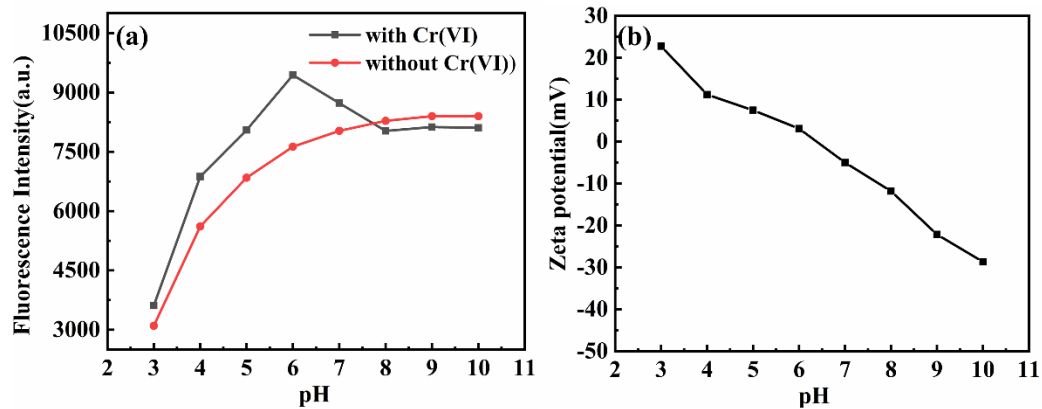


Fig S18 The influence for the fluorescence response of Cr(VI) for the Cu NCs@MIL-101 pair from pH change (a) and the zeta potential of Cu NCs@MIL-101 under different solution pH ranging from 3.0 to 10.0 (b).

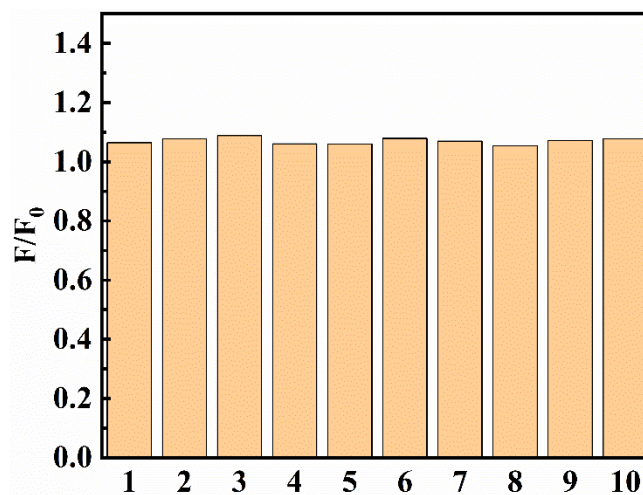


Fig.S19 Ten parallel samples of Cu NCs@MIL-101 reacted with Cr(VI) ( $10\mu\text{M}$ ).

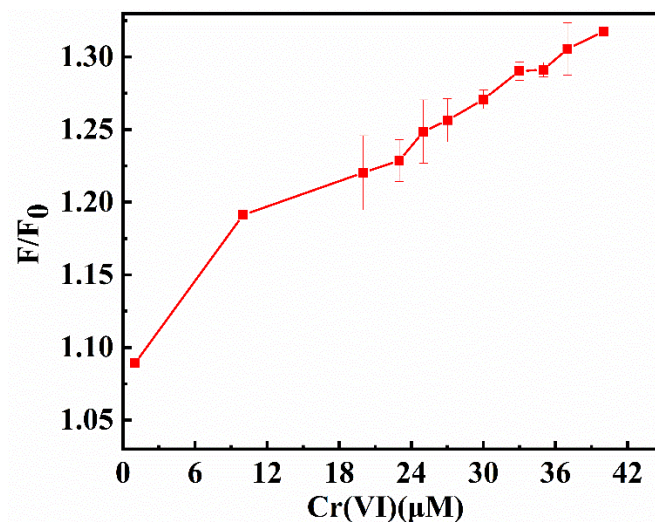


Fig S20 The variation of fluorescence intensity of the Cu NCs@MIL-101 pair with the amounts increasing of Cr(VI) from 0 to 40  $\mu\text{M}$ .

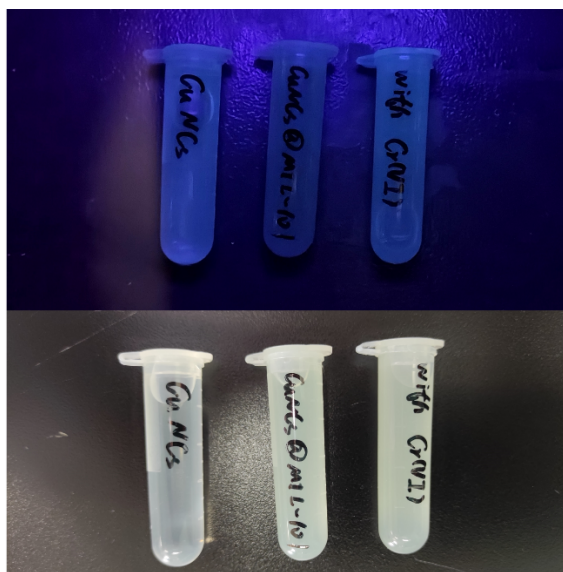


Fig.S21 Naked eye observation of Cu NCs (left), Cu NCs@MIL-101 before (middle) and after reaction with Cr(VI) (right) under UV light (above) and sun light (under).

## References

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