



The Magic of COLOR!

Goals of this lesson:

Youth will:

- Understand primary/secondary/ colors.

What You Need to Know:

- Begin by reading Mouse Paint by Ellen Stoll Walsh
- Engage the children in a discussion about the book and the 3 primary colors. What happens when 2 primary colors are mixed?
- Wonder aloud the question: “I wonder how many different colors we could create using the 3 primary colors?” Tell the children they are becoming “color scientists” for the day. A color scientist is someone who invents new colors or studies how colors are used. A color scientist might work at the Crayola Company or a paint company.

Materials Needed:

- Color mixing trays
- Pipettes
- Color-mixing tablets or food coloring
- Water
- Clear plastic cups or tubs for water
- Paper towel
- Tablecloth
- Color wheel handout
- Crayons



Learning Activity:

1. Create a new color in each of the 24 little containers by mixing only red, yellow, and blue colored water. Use the plastic pipettes to measure out drops of water to create the new color.
2. Have the children make a color wheel to show what colors can be created by using the three primary colors.
3. Ask them some questions to help them think about what they have learned.
 - What were you able to create?
 - How many different colors do you think you could create?
 - Have you ever created new colors with paint?
 - What happens if you mix a whole bunch of different paint colors together?
 - Did anyone create black?
 - If you wanted someone else to be able to make the exact same color you did, what would you need to do?
 - What happens if you add white paint to another color?
 - What happens if you add black paint to another color?

Activity Resources: Mixing trays, pipettes and color tablets are available from: Steve Spangler Science catalogue (www.stevenspanglerscience.com) OR 1-800-223-9080, or other science supply companies.

Read a book. Read a book about colors together and talk about what they learned. Some book suggestions include:

Mouse Paint by Ellen Stoll Walsh

White Rabbit's Color Book by Alan Baker

Little Blue and Little Yellow by Leo Lionni

How Do Dinosaurs Learn Their Colors by Jane Yolen

Color Farm by Lois Ehlert