

Color Wonder

Presenter Tip Sheet

About This Storytime

Older preschool children know basic colors and are at the perfect age to explore color mixing. They can also discover how to make different shades by varying the amount of the colors; for example, a drop of red paint mixed with white paint will make light pink, and adding more red paint will make darker pink. This storytime explores colors, painting, and mixing colors. Reading about mixing colors is beneficial, but it is important that children also have the opportunity to try mixing colors themselves. Try to provide a color mixing experience, even if it might be messy!

Books

For books to share in this storytime, pick three from the list below, or choose other books in your collection that reflect the theme and are developmentally appropriate for fours and fives. Always share your longest book first. For your second, try to choose a participatory book that engages the children and ask the caregivers to join in. For the third and last story, share a book told through the use of a flannel board or magnetic board, or use a prop or other visual. The examples provided in the storytime program fit these guidelines.

Book Suggestions:

- *Baby Bear Sees Blue*, by Ashley Wolff (Beach Lane, 2012)
- *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* by Bill Martin Jr. (Henry Holt, 2008)
- *Butterfly Butterfly: A Book of Colors*, by Petr Horáček (Candlewick, 2007)
- *Color Dance*, by Ann Jonas (Greenwillow, 1989)
- *Dog's Colorful Day*, by Emma Dodd (Dutton, 2001)
- *I Ain't Gonna Paint No More!* by Karen Beaumont (HMH, 2005)
- *Little Blue and Little Yellow*, by Leo Lionni (Knopf, 2009)
- *Mouse Paint*, by Ellen Stoll Walsh (HMH, 1989)
- *Pete the Cat: I Love My White Shoes*, by Eric Litwin (HarperCollins, 2010)
- *Planting a Rainbow*, by Lois Ehlert (HMH, 1988)
- *White Rabbit's Color Book*, by Alan Baker (Kingfisher, 1999)

Songs

This storytime includes four songs. The same opening song and closing song should be used each week if you are holding a series of storytime programs. Always provide some type of movement or motions to accompany each song. Using recorded music during the storytime is fine, but try to sing some songs with a live voice so that children can hear the words and the sounds making up each word. The Very Ready Reading Program includes CDs with all the songs in the storytimes, recorded at an appropriate tempo for this age group. Track numbers for each recording are provided in the songlist below and on the storytime program card.

Songs for This Storytime:

- Opening Song: "Moving Hands" (sung to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell") 🎧 2.08 🎶 2.09
- "Color Song" (sung to the tune of "Someone's in the Kitchen with Dinah") 🎧 1.10
- "Color Hokey Pokey" (sung to the tune of "Hokey Pokey") 🎧 1.09
- Closing Song: "Library Storytime Song" (sung to the tune of "I've Been Workin' on the Railroad") 🎧 2.01 🎶 2.02

Alternate Songs:

- "Let's Paint a Picture" by Jack Grunsky, *Playground*. Casablanca Kids, 2007.
- "If You're Wearing Colors" by The Learning Station, *Get Funky and Musical Fun*. Hug-A-Chug Records, 2003.
- "The Color Song" and "Color Game" by Jim Gill, *Jim Gill Sings Do Re Mi on His Toe Leg Knee*. Jim Gill Music, 1999.
- "At the Easel" by Thomas Moore, *I Am Special Just Because I'm Me*. CD Baby. 1986.
- "What Color Is This?" by The Learning Station, *Singing, Moving, and Fun*.
- "Everything Has a Color" by The Learning Station, *Children Love to Sing and Dance*.
- "If You're Wearing Colors" by The Learning Station, *Get Funky and Musical Fun*. Hug-A-Chug Records, 2003.
- "Rainbow of Colors" by Greg and Steve, *We All Live Together, Volume 5*. Young Heart Music, 2000.

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Rhymes

This storytime includes three rhymes and one chant. The rhymes used in these storytimes have motions that are appropriate for fours and fives with developing fine motor skills.

Rhymes/Chants for This Storytime:

- “My Crayon Box”
- “With a Paintbrush”
- “Wearing Colors”
- “Rainbow Dancers” (Chant) Can also be sung. Available on the following recording: *Start Smart Songs*, by Pam Schiller.

Activities

This storytime includes an optional theme-related activity, to be completed after the closing song. Below are three to choose from. The activity you choose might depend on the size or predominant age of your audience, the amount of time you have to prepare, your space or environment, and the materials needed. The activities are designed with safety and the attention spans and fine motor abilities of fours and fives in mind. However, always keep in mind and remind caregivers: **Any time an activity involves materials such as paint, sand, string, or small pieces, close adult supervision is required.** Although each activity has a learning aspect, the emphasis should be on having fun!

Activity Suggestions:

Color Mixing. Provide finger paint in two primary colors (red, blue, or yellow), and let the children mix the colors by painting on finger-paint paper.

Tissue Paper Art. Provide tissue paper in primary colors (red, blue, and yellow). Invite children to tear the paper and collage it onto a sheet of white paper. Discuss the colors that show up where the primary colors overlap.

Rainbow Book. Give each child a piece of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and violet or purple construction paper. Have the children arrange the pages in the order of the colors of the rainbow. Have them fold all the pages in half and staple on the sides like a book. Cover the staples with tape on both sides. Children can write in the book or draw objects that correspond with each color (for example, an apple on the red page).

Early Literacy Tips

Throughout each storytime program, you’ll find yellow boxes that feature early literacy tips. As you present your program, share these tips with parents and caregivers to help promote the **7 Days • 7 Ways** principles. The tips are designed to easily be infused into the storytime without interrupting the natural flow of the program for children. The Caregiver Tip Sheets you will hand out at the end of each program reiterate the literacy tips you shared during the storytime.