Explore Color with Your Child

Color in the Kitchen

A patch of colored light. When you and your child are drinking cranberry or apple juice in a clear glass, hold the glass up to the light. Look for a patch of colored light where the light passes through the juice.

If you have a flashlight, try shining it through the glass of juice. Can you find the patch of colored light? Move the flashlight around and notice what happens to the colored light.

Color-ade. You and your child can make your own colorful drink with food coloring and water. Use a clear glass of water. Let your child pick a color and add a few drops of food coloring to the water. Watch the color slowly spread through the water.

Then have your child pick a second color. Before adding it to the water, you may want to ask, What do you think will happen when you add (yellow) drops to the (red) water? Try it and see. If you wish, then add some lemon juice and sugar to make colorful lemonade!

Out and About

Rainbow salad. The next time you are shopping, buy some fruits to make into a fruit salad. Ask your child, Shall we make a rainbow fruit salad or an all-one-color fruit salad? Can your child find a fruit for every color of the rainbow? Or, if the decision is to make an all-one-color salad, how many different (red) fruits can your child find?

Color Walk. Go for a Color Walk with your child. Ask, How many (blue) things do you see? Your child can carry a notebook and make a mark for each blue object, or draw a picture list. Have a conversation about the many different types of blues you see. Ask, Do you think that car is blue or green? What color would you call that door?

Watch Peep and the Big Wide World on public television stations around the country and on our Web site, peepandthebigwideworld.org, where you’ll also find online games, family science activities, and much more.

Peep and the Big Wide World—hatching new scientists every day!
Learn More about Color

Read and Find Out!

Visit your library and look for these books. Ask your librarian for additional recommendations.

**The Lion and the Little Red Bird** by Elisa Kleven
*Puffin Books, 1992*
A bird makes friends with an artistic lion whose tail is a different color every day.

**Spicy, Hot Colors** by Sherry Shahan
*August House, 2007*
Gorgeous art and jazzy poetry introduce color words in both English and Spanish.

**Colors Everywhere** by Tana Hoban
*Greenwillow Books, 2005*
Colors jump off the pages of this collection of photographs. Invite your child to find the colors in each photograph that match the bars along the side.

Click and Explore!

**Paint Splat:** An online game  peepandthebigwideworld.org
Click on Games, then choose the picture of purple Quack standing in front of an orange and red background.
Help Quack mix paints to match the color card that Chirp is holding up. Click on the hose after each try to wash down the fence and get a new color card.

**Mix and Paint:** An online game  pbskids.org/curiousgeorge
Click Games, then choose Mix and Paint.
Paint your own special picture by mixing colors in a paint-mixing machine.