

Rainbow of Colors Activities!

Celebrate the spring season with one or more of these colorful activities!

COLOR DAY

Liven up a dreary winter day by devoting it to a color. Here are a few ideas:

- Ask children to come to school dressed in the chosen color.
- Have them do art projects with the color.
- Make a list of objects associated with the color.
- Discuss emotions and feelings associated with the color.
- Write a poem about the color.
- Bring in foods the chosen color for the students to sample.

After several "Color Days" ask students to vote for their favorite color and graph the results.

INVITE A PRINTER

Ask a local printer to come to your class and explain the process of printing everything from books to posters, and newspapers to magazines. They will probably be able to bring a "color key" or color separation to illustrate how printers print all the colors of the rainbow by using only four colors.



COLOR WORDS

Write color words on strips of paper and distribute one to each child in class. Tell the students to keep their color word a secret while they orally list objects that are their specific color. Classmates can guess the color associated with the objects named. For young children use only the basic colors. Older students can use more descriptive colors such as:

avocado	orchid	mustard
cocoa	aqua	gold
fuchsia	ebony	tan
emerald	pumpkin	eggshell
peach	ivory	mint
burgundy	canary	midnight
lime	navy	grape
lavender	coffee	sand

MAKE A RAINBOW

Begin by explaining to your class that light is made up of all the colors of the rainbow. When light passes through water, the water separates the colors and becomes visible as in a rainbow. Illustrate this phenomena with this simple experiment:

On a sunny day, place a clear glass of water on a table, position the glass so that it is half on the table and half off. Make sure that sunlight coming from a window shines directly through the glass and onto the floor. Place a large white sheet of paper on the floor in line with the sunlight and watch a rainbow appear.

Children can also make rainbows by blowing bubbles outside on a sunny day.

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RAINBOW GAME

Arrange chairs in a circle, making sure you have one less chair than the number of children playing the game. Select one student to stand in the center of the circle. Ask the other students to each sit in a chair. Give every student a slip of colored paper. (Each color should be different, with the name of the color written boldly on the slip.) The student standing in the center calls out the name of two colors. The children with those colors must try to change places before the person in the middle can get their chair. The student left without a chair takes the position in the center and the game continues.

Every now and then, instruct the person in the middle to call out, "Rainbow!" When this happens, everyone must try to get a new chair.

HISTORY IN COLOR

Bring "color" to the sometimes dull facts of history. Have children choose one of the following "colorful" historical facts, people, monuments or events to research. Mount the papers on the appropriate colored paper and display them on the class board.

The California Gold Rush
The Blue and the Grey
The White House
The Green Berets
The Redcoats
Yellowstone National Park
The Red, White and Blue

COLORFUL CREATIVE WRITING

Write on slips of paper names of objects that denote color. Pass out the slips of paper and ask students to write poems or "colorful" paragraphs about their objects. Here are a few ideas:

A Hot Stove	Cold Water
Dark Night	Summer Grass
Lemonade	Jack 'O Lantern
Chocolate Cake	Bunch of Bananas
Strawberries	Pine Tree
Vanilla Ice Cream	Sunny Day

COLORFUL PARAGRAPHS

Help your older students learn the various parts of a paragraph with this colorful idea.

Make copies of a variety of magazine or newspaper articles and provide colored highlight pens for each student.

Ask students to highlight the main idea of the article with one color. Have them highlight the main points another color and the conclusive statement a third color. Children can display the colorful articles on the class board.

