

KS1 – Lesson Plan 1 – Science

How can mixing different colours help us create new ones?

Aim: Children will explore primary colours, discover how to mix them to make secondary colours, and understand how light affects the way colours appear.	Key Words: • Primary colours, secondary colours, mix, blend, shade, tone, light, dark.	Preparation: • Red, blue, and yellow paints (washable) • White and black paint for lightening/darkening colours • Paintbrushes, palettes, water pots, paper towels • Mixing charts or colour wheels • Torches or desk lamps for light experiments • White paper and dark paper for comparison
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Prior Learning: Children may know the names of some colours and have experience painting, but may not yet understand colour mixing or the concept of primary and secondary colours.

WC / PT	<u>Warm-up:</u> Show children the three primary colours and ask them if they know what happens when we mix them. Introduce the idea of a “colour family” and use a simple colour wheel to show how colours are related. Shine a torch on a red, blue, and yellow object to see how light changes their appearance.	0-5 mins
WC	<u>Main Teach:</u> Demonstrate mixing two primary colours to create a secondary colour (red + yellow = orange, yellow + blue = green, blue + red = purple). Show how adding a little white can make a colour lighter (tint) and how adding a little black can make it darker (shade). Link this to science by explaining that our eyes see colours because of light bouncing off objects.	5-10 mins

I / S	<u>Activity:</u> Children work in small groups to: 1. Mix their own secondary colours. 2. Create a simple colour wheel. 3. Experiment with light and dark versions of one secondary colour by adding white or black paint.	10-30 mins
I	<u>Extension Challenge:</u> Can you invent a brand-new colour and give it a name? Can you create a painting that uses only secondary colours and shades?	30-35 mins
WC	<u>Plenary:</u> Circle time “gallery walk” where children show their work. Discuss which colours were easy to mix and which were tricky, and reflect on how light made the colours look different.	35-40 mins

WC – Whole Class

PT – Partner Talk

I – Independent

S - Support

Challenge A	Science Link: Test what happens if you shine coloured light (red/blue/green) on a painting – does it change the colours you see?
Challenge B	Geography Link: Research which colours are common in nature in different seasons and try to mix them.