

“White Rabbit’s Magic Colors”

PURPOSE:

To introduce children to secondary colors using primary opaque tempera. Children will use simple finger-painting techniques to mix colors.

Materials should be passed out before beginning lesson and children should be gathered to their story area.

DOCENT WILL SUPPLY

- “White Rabbit’s Color Book” by Alan Baker
- “Colors” – a discovery book
- Rabbit work sheets- 1 per student
- Small paper plates for tempera
- Handi-wipes for clean-up
- Tempera paint- Red, Yellow and Blue

PROCEDURE

Show children cover of book and tell children, "Today we are going to talk about colors and how just three colors, red, yellow and blue, can be mixed to make many more colors. Later we will paint colors using just one fingertip! Red, Yellow and blue are called primary colors and with them we can make orange, green, purple and even brown! Right now we will share the books"

Read "White Rabbit" stopping to let children guess what will happen with the rabbit hops from color to color.

Look at book "Colors" do this quickly spending more time on first pages. Then say, "Now we will go to our tables and find out how to mix colors just like white rabbit did. The only tool we will use is one pointer finger! You will need to listen very carefully so that you will know what to do and so that all of us will have fun finger-painting with just one finger! Now let's walk quietly to our places and see what happens next.

With children at places, point out the paper and palettes and put names on back of paper. Have them find the rabbit in the top left corner (docents help here). "Now dip your pointer finger in the yellow paint and paint the rabbit yellow. Put a dot of yellow by the rabbit to remember what you used. Wipe your finger, and then get some red paint. Put a dot of red by the yellow dot, and then paint over the yellow so the colors mix. What do we have? (If a child has too much of one color help him get a good secondary) Now let's do the other rabbit on top. Clean your 'finger-brush then get some blue paint. Make a blue dot by the rabbit and paint him blue. Clean your finger-brush, and then get some red. Make a red dot then paint over the blue to get purple."

Continue the lesson with the lower left – first yellow, then blue to get green. Last of all put a dot of each color as they use all three to get brown. Yellow first, then red and last blue, a little at a time.

Children clean their finger-brush with a handi-wipe.