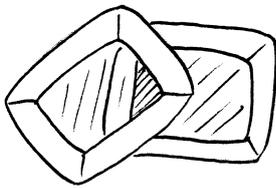


# Color Frames

Age: Preschool-age (3-4 years)

This activity helps your child's development in this domain: Cognitive

## What You Need:



- Three Styrofoam® trays such as the type used for meats and poultry, cleaned well with hot, soapy water, and dried well (or use a cereal or cracker box instead of Styrofoam® trays).
- Red, yellow, and blue cellophane
- Scissors (for adult use only)
- Tape
- Ruler
- Pencil

## What To Do:

1. Draw lines 1 to 1½ inches in from the edge of each tray to make a border.
2. Carefully cut along the lines. Remove the center piece so the tray resembles a frame.
3. Repeat with other two trays.
4. Cut one sheet of each color of cellophane to fit over the trays.
5. Tape a sheet of cellophane on each tray so you have one red, one yellow, and one blue frame.
6. Have your child hold up each color frame and ask him, "What color do you see?"
7. Stand by a window where the sun is shining through and show him how to hold the frame so that the sunlight shines through it. Show him how the color



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reflects on the floor or wall. Ask him what he sees.

8. Explain to your child that when two of the primary colors are mixed together, they make different colors, which are called secondary colors.

Red + blue = purple, red + yellow = orange, blue + yellow = green.

9. Have him put two frames together and hold them up to a light. Ask him what color he sees.

10. If you speak another language, use the words from that language to name the colors, for example, in Mandarin, red is hóng, blue is lán, and yellow is huáng.

#### VARIATION:

Have your child mix together paints or water colored with food coloring, using two primary colors at a time to make a secondary color. Discuss what happens when colors are mixed.

**! Safety Alert:** Adult-size scissors are not safe for young preschoolers. Keep them out of children's reach.

