



Primary & Secondary Colors with Barbara and Friends

1. Overview

- a. Artist, printmaker and educator Barbara Mason demonstrates a simple – if slightly messy – method for teaching and reinforcing the lesson of Primary and Secondary colors with her grandsons Wes and Atticus. Barbara’s belief is that art that is made experiential and playful will stay with children longer, and mixing your own secondary colors is one way to learn them. Once you’ve gotten paint on your hands to make handprints, it’s hard to forget how you did it.
- b. Grade level: Kindergarten to 3rd Gr.
- c. Vocabulary
 - i. Warm colors
 - ii. Cool colors
 - iii. Primary colors
 - iv. Triangle
 - v. Color wheel
 - vi. Secondary colors
- d. Art Medium
 - i. Poster board
 - ii. Tempera Paint (washable) red, yellow, and blue
 - iii. Bucket with soapy water
 - iv. Bucket with clean water
 - v. Paper towels
 - vi. Apron or old clothes to wear

2. Fun Facts

- a. The colors of the rainbow always go in the same order: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet.
- b. Researchers around the world have conducted studies asking people their favorite color. The most popular answer is blue!
- c. The color yellow is supposed to make people feel hungry. You might notice there are a lot of restaurants that use the color yellow on their signs.
- d. Some birds and bees have super color vision. They can see colors that humans cannot.
- e. Dogs, cats, mice, rats and rabbits have very poor color vision. In fact, they see mostly greys and some blues and yellows.

f. Bulls are colorblind.

3. Lesson Plan

- a. Elements of Art
 - i. Form
 - ii. Shape
 - iii. Color
 - iv. Texture
- b. Principles of Art
 - i. Rhythm
 - ii. Balance
 - iii. Emphasis (contrast)
 - iv. Proportion
 - v. Gradation
 - vi. Harmony
 - vii. Variety
- c. Visualization
 - i. Describe the variety of colors you created.
 - ii. What makes the colors different from one another?
 - iii. What did you see happen when you rubbed your hands together and placed them with the paint on the paper?
- d. Goals and Objectives
 - i. Students will learn primary colors.
 - ii. Students will learn about secondary colors and how secondary colors are created by mixing primary colors.

4. Standards Met

- a. To meet standards, students should be encouraged to watch the following videos:
 - i. Let's learn about Piet Mondrian! https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k_t8eAca9CU
 - ii. The Day The Crayons Quit, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=489micE6eHU>
 - iii. Want to learn more? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SH1kZeFO070>
 - iv. Just for fun discover where rare pigments are kept. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F8aVfqDKx1U>

COMPLIANCE WITH EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS (PER GRADE)

Kindergarten

VA.1.CR1.K #1., VA.3.CR3.K #1., & #2., VA.7.RE1.K #1.,
VA.8.RE2.K #1., VA:Cr1.1.Ka, VA:Cr1.2.Ka, VA:Cr3.1.Ka,
VA:Re9.1.Ka

1st Grade

VA.1.CR1.1 #3., VA.2.CR2.1 #1., VA.3.CR3.1 #1. & #2., VA.7.RE1.1
#1. & #2., VA.8.RE2.1 #1., VA.9.RE3.1 #1., VA:Cr1.1.1a,
VA:Cr1.2.1a, VA:Cr2.1.1a, VA:Cr3.1.1a, VA:Pr4.1.1a, VA:Re8.1.1a,
VA:Re9.1.1a

2nd Grade

VA.3.CR3.2 #1., #2., & #3., VA:RE3.2 #1., VA:Cr1.1.2a,
VA:Cr3.1.2a, VA:Re9.1.2a

3rd Grade

VA.9.RE3.3 #1., VA:Cr1.1.3a, VA:Re9.1.3a