
Grade K Project: Rainy Day Color Wheel

Element of Art: Color

Artistic Influence: Keith Haring

Objective: To tell the difference between primary and secondary colors and to demonstrate artistic expression by embellishing the artwork with self-selected details.



Element of Art: Color

Materials:

- Color wheel umbrella templates (printed on cardstock)
- Paper plates
- Tempera paint: red, yellow and blue
- Paint brush
- Pencil
- Paper towels
- Water cups
- Newsprint to cover desks



Instructions and notes:

1. Study the paintings in the PowerPoint beforehand to generate some of your own insights and questions.
2. It is helpful to do a sample of the lesson so you have experienced the process of the project yourself.
3. Briefly explain the artistic element of color that will be discussed in this lesson. You may want to simplify it for Kindergarten students. For instance, to see color, you have to have light. When light shines on an object certain colors bounce off the object and others are absorbed by it. The sun's rays contain all the colors of the rainbow mixed together.
4. Go through the steps in the PowerPoint slide deck. It is important to go step-by-step with this age group.
5. After primary and secondary colors are taught, you can check for understanding: "When I say a color, you're going to raise up one finger if it's a primary color and two fingers if it's a secondary color."
6. After students have painted the primary colors, ask them to point to the space where they will paint each complimentary color. If a mix up occurs, they can always paint over the space with the correct color.
7. Distribute parent information page for students to take home, and print an extra page to post on your bulletin board with the finished art. See following page.
8. Please complete the brief [LWSD Art Docent Program Feedback Survey](#) for this lesson.
9. Thank you for supporting our elementary students' visual arts education.

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The goal of this Kindergarten lesson was for students to express themselves while using the color wheel and complementary colors.



Untitled, 1984, Keith Haring

WA State Visual Arts Standard (VA:Re7.2.K)

Describe what an image represents.

In this art lesson taught by volunteer art docents, students learned about the Art Element, **color**, which is the visible range of reflected light. To see **color**, you have to have light. When light shines on an object some **colors** bounce off the object and others are absorbed by it. The sun's rays contain all the **colors** of the rainbow mixed together.

Keith Haring's pop art grew out of the New York City street culture of the 1980s and was the inspiration for this project. His paintings have bright colors and fun energy. He lived from 1958 to 1990.

To create this project, the students learned about primary and secondary colors in order to create a color wheel umbrella. Then they were introduced to complementary colors (or colors across from one another on the color wheel). Students also drew a person in a raincoat and embellished their artwork by adding details.

The development of this Lake Washington School District art docent lesson was made possible by a grant from the Lake Washington Schools Foundation.

