



Rainbows



Rainbows (What's Included!)

- Introduction to the Unit of Investigation
- Materials Needed for Activities
- Vocabulary Words
- Guiding Questions
- Songs to Sing
- Books to Read
- Tips to Reinforce the Unit in Everyday Experience
- Know Wonder Learn (KWL) Chart
- Word Web (Expansion of Concepts Relative to Unit of Investigation)
- Expanded Play with Unit of Investigation
- 12 Activities (Including Materials Needed, Directions to Follow, and Targeted Learning Objectives)



Introduction: Rainbows

Exploring rainbows and colors in everyday contexts offers rich learning opportunities for children. By observing the colors of objects in their surroundings and noticing how they change in different lighting conditions, children develop their powers of observation and critical thinking skills. These experiences also provide a foundation for early science learning, as children begin to understand the relationship between light, color, and the natural world.

While it may not always be possible to witness a rainbow in person, hands-on experimentation can help children understand the formation of rainbows and embrace scientific concepts. Through activities like creating rainbow art, exploring color mixing, or using prisms to refract light, children can engage in meaningful exploration that allows them to experience the wonder of rainbows firsthand.

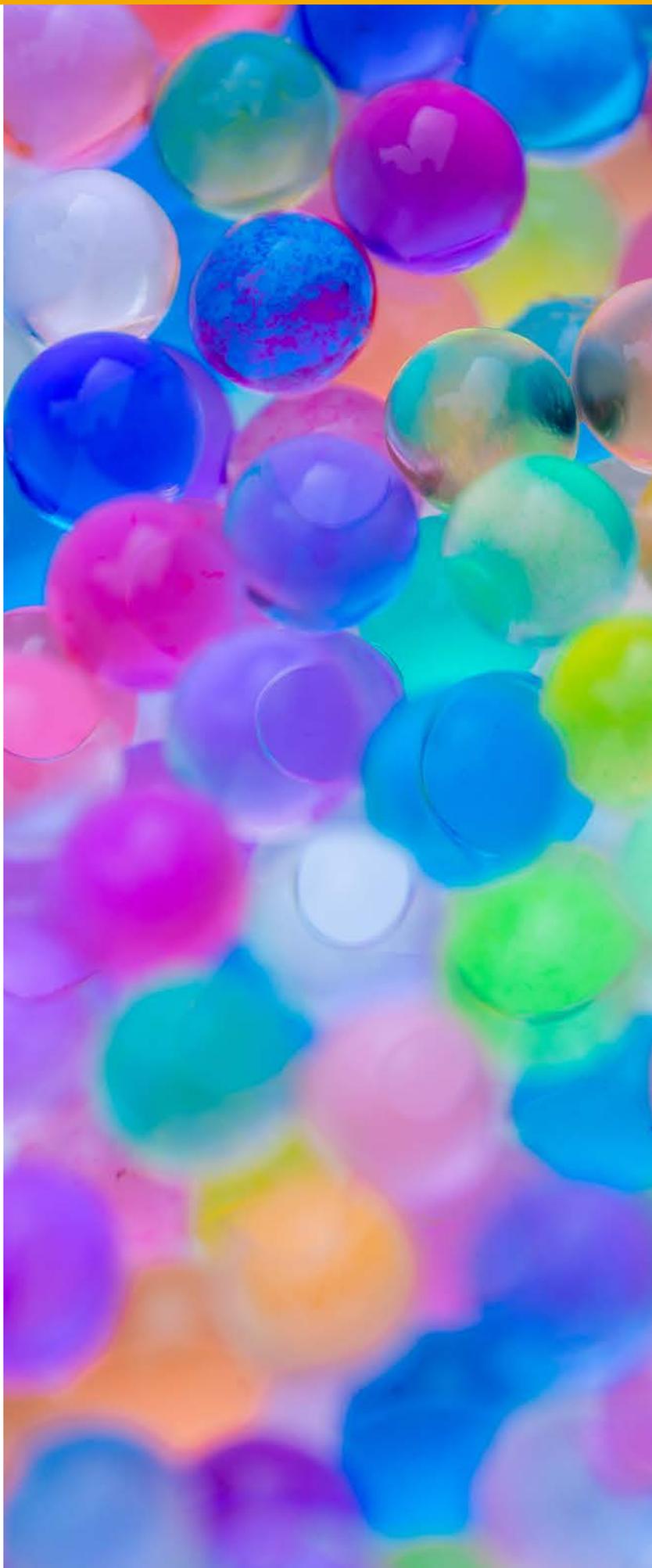
When administering activities, it's important to re-offer the same activities several times over. This allows children the opportunity to make deep connections, comprehend uses and properties, while contributing to mastery and memory recall. And keep in mind that learning is not confined to a specific time, place, or activity. It's an ongoing journey where connections are woven through daily interactions and engagement with the people, places, and materials that surround us.



Materials

Our suggested list of materials are items that will supplement the activities and experiences in your packet.

- Rainbow colored sensory materials (for sensory table/bin). Consider rainbow colored rice or pasta, orbeez (water beads), multi-colored sand
 - Materials for sensory play: measuring cups, spoons, funnels, tongs, etc.
- Multi-colored construction paper
- Tray or containers to hold paint
- Red, yellow, blue, black and white tempera paint
- 1 paint brush
- 1 sponge (to dry paintbrush)
- 1 empty shoebox or shallow box/container
- Painters Tape
- Rainbow colored craft materials (e.g. feathers, caps, popsicle sticks, pom-poms)
- Glue
- Coloring utensils (markers, crayons, colored pencils)
- Clear cups
- Paper Towels
- Red, yellow, and blue food coloring
- CD or prism
- Flashlight
- Small, clear container



Vocabulary Words

New & relative vocabulary words to incorporate in everyday experiences: In addition to incorporating the vocabulary words provided below, try to speak as you go! Talking to children as you go is one of the most powerful ways to expand upon receptive and expressive language development. The more language children are exposed to (when used in meaningful and relative context) the greater it contributes to language and future literacy skills.

- Rainbow
- Arc
- Light
- Shine
- Rain
- Sun
- Sunlight
- Shadow
- Reflect
- Reflection
- Prism
- Spectrum
- Glow
- Glisten
- Colors
- Multi-colored
- Polychromatic
- Monochromatic
- Emit
- Hue
- Bend
- Refraction
- Water drops
- Droplets
- Wet
- Fog
- Haze
- Puddles
- Bounce
- Splits
- Energy
- Lightwaves
- Wavelength
- Color-waves
- Science
- Movement,
- Meteorologist
- Weather
- Sunshine
- Rays



Guiding Questions

Guiding questions play a vital role in emergent curriculum as they spark curiosity, promote inquiry, and guide the direction of learning experiences based on children's interests and developmental needs. By posing open-ended questions that encourage exploration and discovery, we can tap into children's natural curiosity and foster a deeper understanding of concepts. These questions serve as a catalyst for meaningful learning experiences, empowering children to actively engage with their environment, make connections, and construct knowledge.

Guiding questions also help scaffold learning opportunities, providing a framework for observation, assessment, and reflection on children's interests, skills, and growth. They promote collaboration and dialogue, fostering a dynamic learning community where ideas are shared, perspectives are valued, and creativity thrives. Guiding questions honor children's voices, interests, and agency in shaping their learning journey.

- How do you think rainbows are formed?
- Do you think rainbows are always the same size? Why or why not?
- How would you describe what a rainbow looks like to someone who has never seen one?
- When and where do you see rainbows?
- How does seeing a rainbow make you feel?
- If you could touch a rainbow, what do you think it would feel like?
- Have you ever made your own rainbow? If so, how did you do it?
- How might you create a rainbow using different materials or objects?
- If you could name a new color for a rainbow, what would it be called and why?



Songs to Sing

Singing with children is a multifaceted tool for development, enhancing language skills through exposure to varied vocabulary and rhythms. The rhythmic and melodic nature aids memory, making learning engaging. Beyond cognitive benefits, singing promotes emotional expression, fostering a holistic growth experience.

Somewhere Over the Rainbow, by Judy Garland

Somewhere over the rainbow, way up high
There's a land that I heard of once in a lullaby
Somewhere over the rainbow skies are blue
And the dreams that you dare to dream really do
come true

Someday I'll wish upon a star
And wake up where the clouds are far behind me
Where troubles melt like lemon drops
Away above the chimney tops
That's where you'll find me

Somewhere over the rainbow bluebirds fly
Birds fly over the rainbow
Why then, oh, why can't I?

If happy little bluebirds fly
Beyond the rainbow
Why, oh, why can't I?

The Rainbow Song

Colors all around, up high in the sky,
Red, orange, yellow, green, and blue, oh my!
Look up above, what do you see?
A beautiful rainbow, shining brightly!

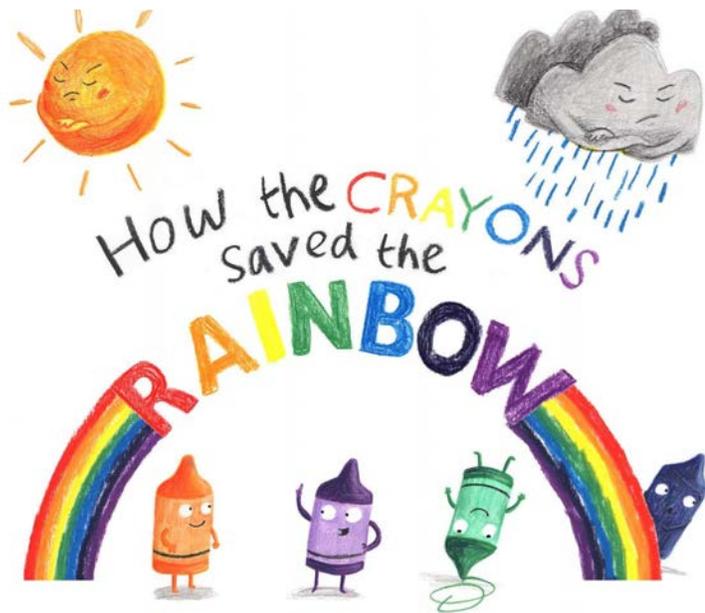
Rainbow, rainbow, colors so bright,
Painting the sky with a colorful light.
Red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple too,
Rainbow, rainbow, we love you!

Disclaimer: We Skoolhouse does not own the lyrics to any of the songs provided.



Books to Read

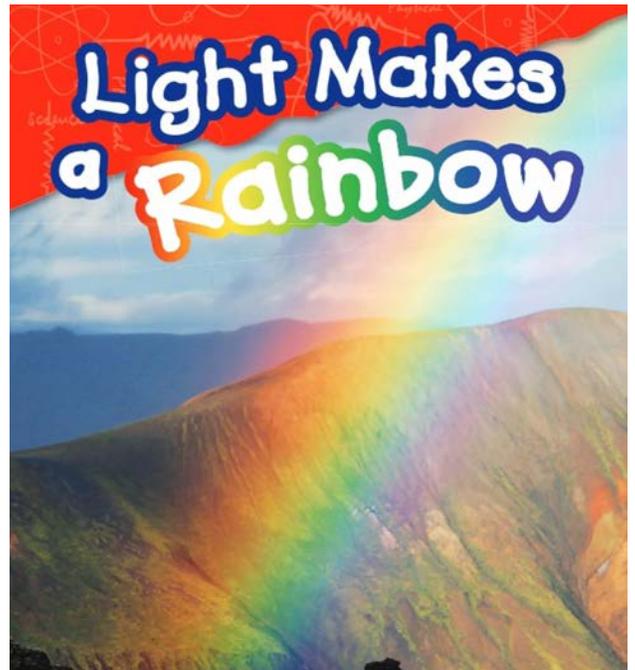
We select two books to support your unit of investigation - it's important to go slow and re-read the same books several times for greater comprehension and connection building. You can read the recommended book before they begin the hands-on work. We understand all children have different preferences and interests when it comes to books (and everything else), so please find our supplemental reads that can replace or add to the suggested books below:



written by
Monica Sweeney

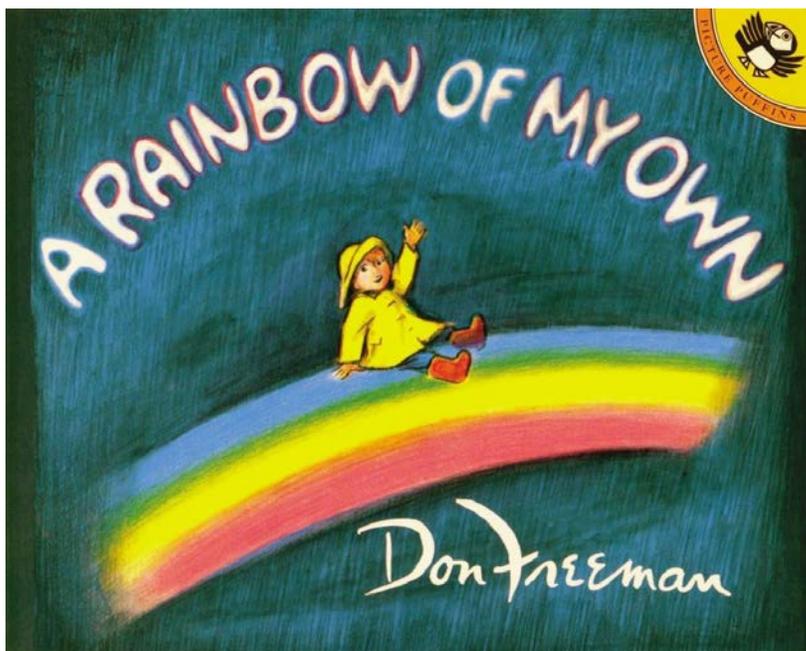
illustrated by
Feronia Parker Thomas

**How the Crayons Saved the Rainbow,
by Monica Sweeney**

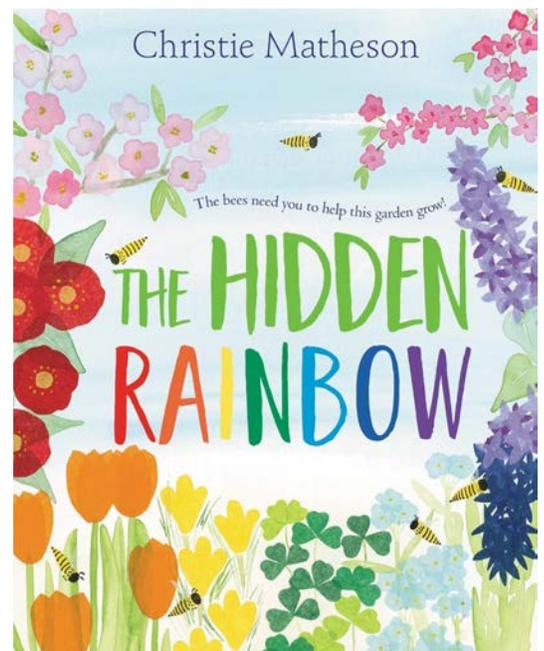


Light Makes a Rainbow, by Sharon Coan

Supplemental Reads:



A Rainbow Of My Own, by Don Freeman



The Hidden Rainbow, by Christie Matheson

Tips to Reinforce the Unit in Everyday Experiences:

The Rainbows Around Us:

- Head outside to engage in a rainbow scavenger hunt! While an actual rainbow may be hard to come by, you can invite children to find objects that are the colors of the rainbow, e.g. "can you find something "red?" "orange?" "yellow?" "green?" "blue?" "purple?"



Colors as Emotions:

- Discuss how colors may be representational of our emotions.
 - The Color Monster and My Many Colored Days are great books.
- You can expand upon these concepts by exploring paint and music (e.g. listening to blues music while painting with the color blue).
 - We recommend Louisiana Blues by Muddy Waters

Taste the Rainbow!

- Invite children to create their very own rainbow fruit kabobs!
 - **Warning:** Please be mindful of round fruits such as grapes and blueberries as they **may pose a choking hazard**. You may cut or quarter these fruits before putting them on the sticks (based on your child's stage of development).
- Invite children to consider foods that are the color of the rainbow; What foods are "red?" "orange?" "yellow?" "green?" "blue?" "purple?"





KWL (**K**now, **W**onder , **L**earn) Chart

When kicking off a new investigation, it's recommended to create a large KWL (Know, Wonder, Learn) Chart for you and your children's reference (example below).

You can draw one up on a large sheet of oaktag or easel paper. Introduce a topic by prompting "what do you know about _____?" Once children have shared their prior knowledge, invite them to consider what they'd like to learn about the topic.

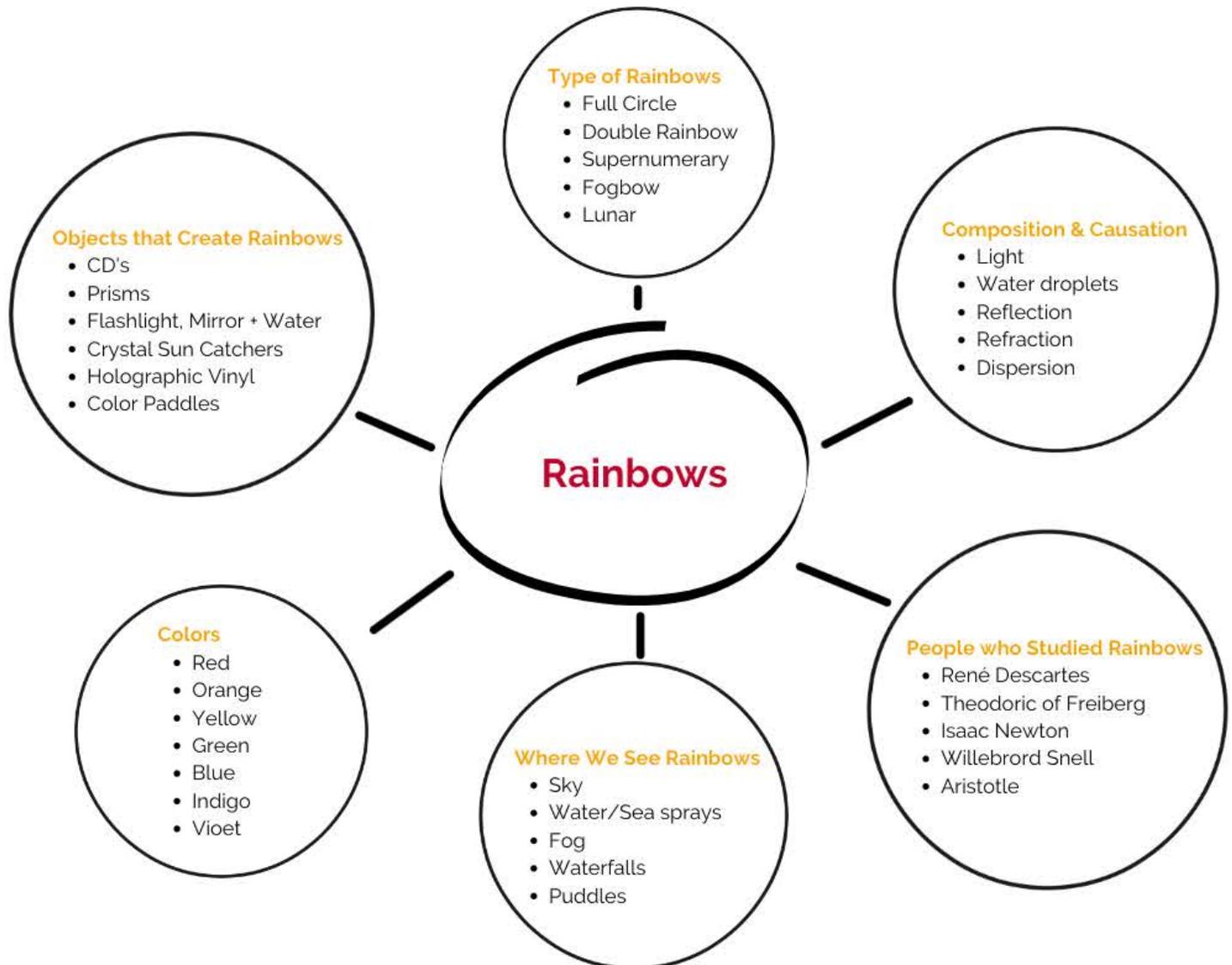
This running document is a place to guide your learning, prompting children to think more critically about the subject, while also formulating their own theories and ideas. Learning is not limited to one time and space, but rather, is an ongoing event. Add to this chart as thoughts, questions & revelations emerge over time.

Know	Wonder	Learn



Word Web: Rainbows

Word webs are another powerful tool to support connection-making, and connection-making is the core of learning! Word webs invite adults and children to think more critically about a specific topic, all while expanding upon research and ideas. While the below is an example of different directions your investigations may go, it is not limited to only these subcategories, but rather, just meant to get the wheels turning - see what else you and your children can come up with and expand upon!



Expanded Play

Learning concepts are best adopted when children can make everyday and tangible connections. Support your child's emergent knowledge and experiences by incorporating the topic in different areas of play and exploration.



Rainbow Materials:

- Add more rainbow-colored toys and materials to your children's play space. You can even create rainbow themed "discovery baskets." Other materials to consider: Magna tiles, wooden rainbow stacker, counting bears, legos, xylophone, slinky, blocks.

Sensory Play

- Fill a large bin or sensory table with a rainbow-colored materials (e.g. rainbow colored rice/pasta, water beads, etc. And/or add materials that encompass all the colors of the rainbow (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple).



Rainbow Music & Movement

- Incorporate rainbow bells to explore musical scales.
- Add more rainbow fabrics and/or scarves to your children's dramatic play space.
 - Children may also dance with their scarves to different types of music (swaying a blue scarf while listening to the blues.

ACTIVITIES





The Colors of the Rainbow

MATERIALS

- White construction paper or water color paper
- Blue, red, & yellow paint
 - Optional: You can expand upon tinting and shading by also offering a small amount of black and white paint too.
- Containers or small jars to hold and separate paint
- One cup of water
- One sponge
- One paintbrush

DIRECTIONS

- Place paper over a comfortable surface for your children to work - you can tape the paper down so it won't move much as they paint.
- Fill containers with paint and fill the cup with water and place by the paper, along with sponge and paintbrush.
 - Feel welcome to demonstrate how to keep colors "clean" rinsing brush off in water and drying on sponge before picking new color.
- Allow children to explore the colors in front of them, in which they may make natural observations of how combining primary colors (blue, red, and yellow) create secondary colors (orange, green, and purple).
- **Some tips to keep in mind.**
 - Start slow, offering just red and yellow one day, then blue and yellow another day, etc. Eventually offering all colors together. This is a great way to allow child to master color blending concepts.
 - Please note, children are not meant to create a rainbow with these colors, but simply explore as they see fit. Eventually you can provide an image of a rainbow for inspiration. Keep revisiting for their practice!

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- **Experiment mixing primary colors:** Children will engage in mixing primary colors to discover how they can combine to form secondary colors. This activity promotes understanding of color theory and allows children to see the cause-and-effect relationship between mixing colors.
- **Develop fine motor skills:** As children manipulate paintbrushes and mixing tools to create their artwork, they will refine their fine motor skills. This includes skills such as gripping the paintbrush, controlling brushstrokes, and coordinating hand movements.
- **Encourage creativity and self-expression:** Providing children with the freedom to explore and create with colors encourages them to express themselves artistically. They will have the opportunity to make choices about which colors to use and how to apply them, fostering their creativity and sense of ownership over their artwork.



Sketch a Rainbow Animal

MATERIALS

- Printed image of an animal that has many colors (refer to the next page for some more ideas!)
 - Welcome children to choose the animal they want to sketch.
- Coloring utensils (markers, colored pencils, crayons, etc.)
- White sheet of construction paper
- Optional: Pencil with eraser

DIRECTIONS

- Print and display an image of an animal that has many colors.
- Near the picture, provide a white sheet of paper and some coloring utensils.
- Allow children to engage in a sketching of their observations.
 - Reminder: There is no "right" or "wrong" or expectation of what children should make.
 - Children may create some recognizable shapes or children may want to focus on exploring the coloring utensils in a different way. The objective is to provide the opportunity to draw inspiration from the image as an option, not an expectation.
- When children are finished, you may welcome them to tell a story about their work/animal they created.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- **Observational Skills:** Through sketching, children will develop observational skills by closely observing their subject matter, whether it's an object, scene, or living thing. This enhances their ability to notice details and strengthens their attention to visual cues in their environment.
- **Fine Motor Development:** Engaging in sketching activities helps children refine their fine motor skills as they manipulate drawing tools such as pencils, crayons, or markers. They will practice controlling the pressure, direction, and movement of their hand to create lines, shapes, and textures on paper.
- **Spatial Awareness:** Sketching encourages children to consider the spatial relationships between objects and elements within their drawings. They will learn to represent three-dimensional objects on a two-dimensional surface, developing spatial reasoning skills and an understanding of perspective.
- **Creative Expression:** Sketching provides a means for children to express their thoughts, ideas, and emotions visually. It fosters creativity by allowing them to experiment with different techniques, styles, and compositions to convey their unique perspectives and imaginations.

Rainbow Colored Animals & Insects

Many animals and insects in nature actually have the title of "rainbow" within their name, and/or come in a beautiful array of various and vibrant colors. A great way to expand upon the colors of rainbows is to look to nature to see the connections we can make. Not only does this provide another outlet of exploration when it comes to rainbows, but it naturally welcomes children to begin looking at and learning about new species.

Invite your children to review the different images of these beautiful, rainbow-colored animals, and welcome them to draw conclusions as to where these animals live and why they may have so many colors covering them. Please note the images below are not the only multi-colored animals, but rather, just a handful to get the wheels turning. You may research any of these animals more in-depth, or take it upon yourself to explore (and connect) other animals as well.



**RAINBOW
LEAF
BEETLE**



**RAINBOW
LORIKEET**



**RAINBOW
MANTIS SHRIMP**



**RAINBOW
WRASSE FISH**



**COTTON
HARLEQUIN BUG**



CHAMELEON



Rainbow Scavenger Hunt

MATERIALS

- Large cardboard box/shoe box or large tray
- Painter's Tape
- Scissors
- 1 sheet of each colored construction paper (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple)
- Various rainbow colored object and materials found by your children

DIRECTIONS

- Divide your box or tray into 6 spaces using painter's tape
 - Optional: You can also use small strips of cardboard to create little walls to separate the colors so objects won't move onto other colored-paper.
- Cut each sheet of construction paper to fit within each section.
- Invite children to go on a rainbow scavenger hunt, searching for red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple objects to add to each section of their box/tray.
- Optional: You may invite your children to count how many red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple items they found. What color did they find the most? Least? Why do you think that is?

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- **Color Recognition:** Children will practice identifying and recognizing colors of the rainbow as they search for objects matching specific hues during the scavenger hunt.
- **Visual Discrimination:** Engaging in the color scavenger hunt promotes visual discrimination skills as children distinguish between different colors and shades to find matching objects.
- **Counting and Numeracy:** Through counting the number of objects found for each color category, children will strengthen their counting skills and develop a basic understanding of numeracy concepts such as quantity and number representation.
- **Classification and Sorting:** As children gather objects of various colors, they will engage in classification and sorting activities by grouping objects according to their color categories, enhancing their ability to categorize and organize information.
- **Language Development:** Participating in discussions about the colors they find and counting the objects encourages language development as children practice verbalizing their observations, expressing numerical concepts, and engaging in conversations with peers and adults.

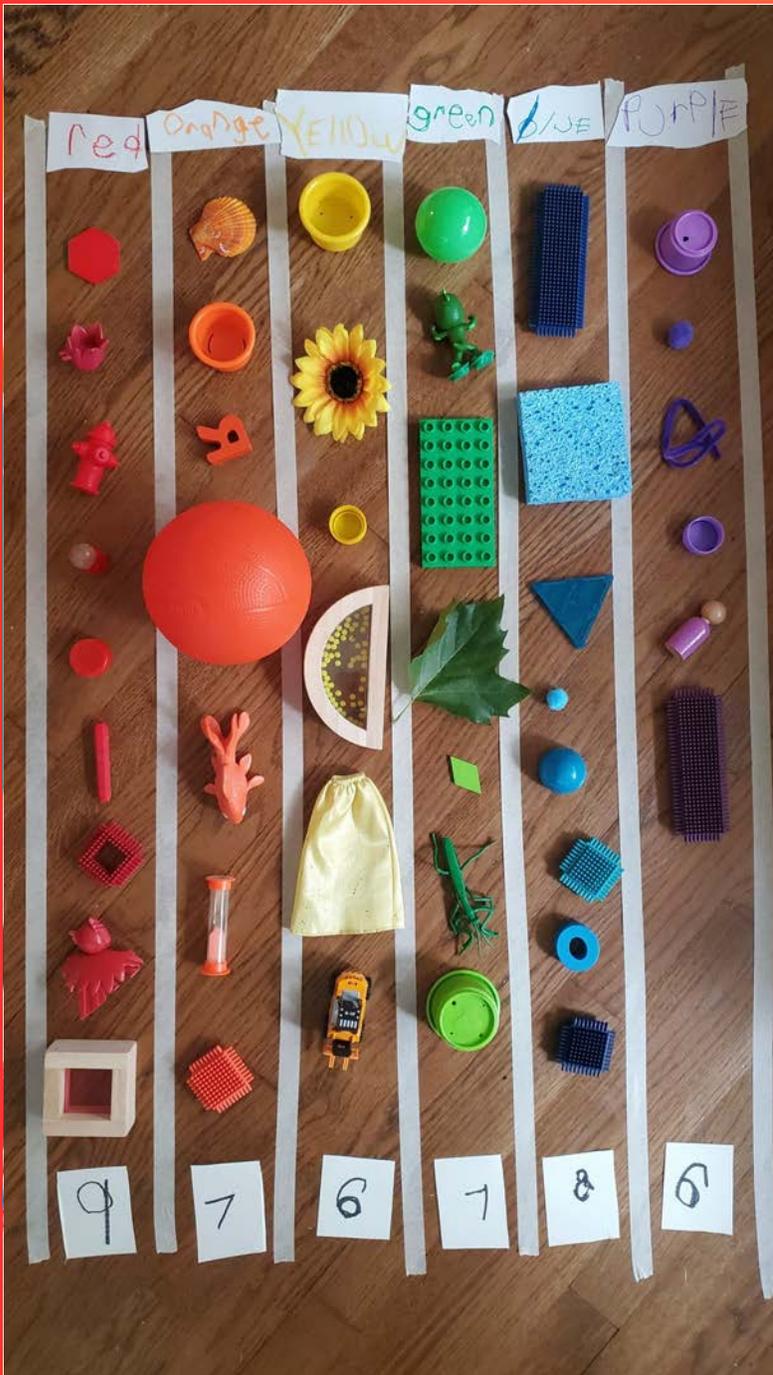
Tally Your Rainbow

MATERIALS

- Painter's Tape
- 1-2 sheets of white paper
- Coloring utensils (markers, crayons, or oil pastels)
- Scissors
- Basket full of various rainbow colored objects

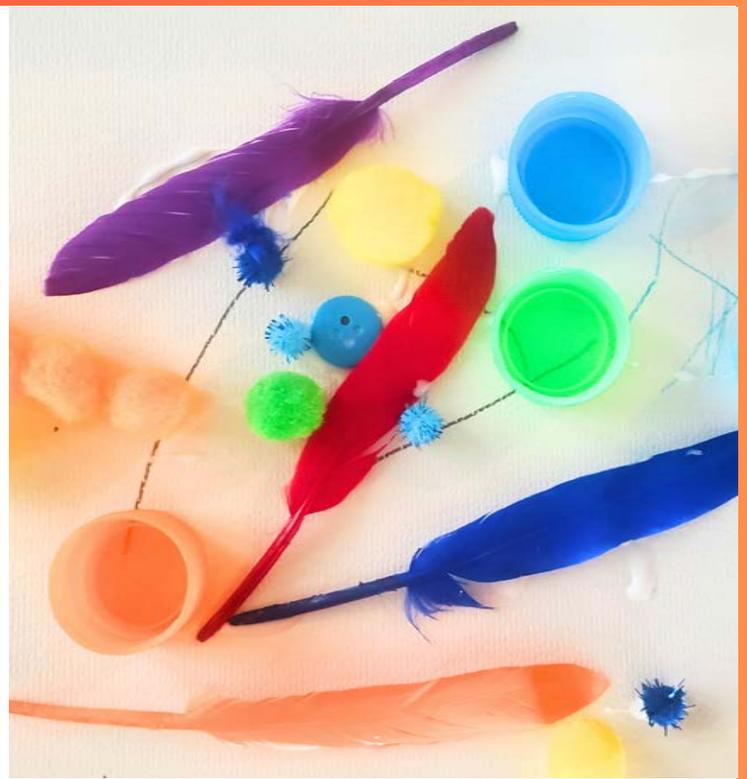
DIRECTIONS

- Invite children to revisit collecting different colored objects from their scavenger hunt.
 - You can utilize the materials from the scavenger hunt, or invite children to gather them (and more) for this activity.
- Create a large floor graph using painter's tape; one column per color of the rainbow.
- At the top of each column, invite children to write the appropriate name of each color.
 - If your children are not able to do this yet - that is to be expected! You can simply write out each word, saying the letters out loud as you write them.
 - Have children add their objects to the appropriate column.
- Once they are done adding all materials, invite them to count the materials out (how many red materials do we have?, etc.)
- Children can then write and add each number to the appropriate columns. You can prompt with question/s such as "which row has the most/least materials?"



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- **Data Representation:** Children will practice representing data visually by creating a tally board on the floor, organizing the collected objects into columns based on their colors, and using tally marks to record the number of objects in each category.
- **Numeracy Skills:** Engaging in tallying and counting the objects for each color column supports the development of numeracy skills as children manipulate numbers and quantities, understand the concept of one-to-one correspondence, and interpret numerical information.
- **Graphical Representation:** By creating columns for each color and tallying the objects within each column, children will develop an understanding of basic graphical representation, learning how to visually represent data using simple charts or graphs.
- **Writing Practice:** Writing the names of colors and the total number of objects for each column provides children with opportunities for writing practice, strengthening their fine motor skills, letter formation, and spelling abilities.
- **Critical Thinking:** Through the process of organizing objects into categories, tallying, and recording data, children will exercise critical thinking skills as they analyze and interpret the information collected, draw conclusions based on the data, and make comparisons between different color groups.



Rainbow Art Collage

MATERIALS

- One sheet of white construction paper or large sheet of butcher paper - bigger the paper, more room to work!
- Coloring utensils (include colors red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple)
- Rainbow-colored craft materials (e.g. feathers, pom-poms, buttons, caps, glitter, pipe-cleaners, etc.)
- Glue
- Optional: Sectional tray or small containers to sort and organize materials

DIRECTIONS

- Set up the sheet of paper over the table or along the floor - wherever your children are most comfortable/prefers to work.
- Place the coloring utensils, craft materials, and glue around the paper.
- Remember, this is a child-led art experience, meaning we do not want to direct or guide them on what or how they should create. Simply let them explore the materials at hand, taking their investigation in any way they choose!

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- **Creative Expression:** Encourage children to express their creativity and individuality through art by using a variety of colors, textures, and materials to create their unique rainbow collages. This objective fosters self-expression, imagination, and confidence in their artistic abilities.
- **Color Recognition and Discrimination:** Engage children in identifying and distinguishing between different colors as they select materials for their rainbow collages. By sorting and arranging colored objects, children develop their color recognition skills, promoting early color discrimination abilities.
- **Spatial Awareness and Composition:** Encourage children to consider spatial relationships and composition as they arrange and layer different elements to create their rainbow collages. Through trial and error, children explore spatial concepts such as size, shape, position, and proportion, developing their spatial reasoning skills and understanding of visual balance and harmony.
- **Sensory Exploration:** Provide opportunities for sensory exploration as children engage with a diverse range of tactile materials, from soft paper and smooth crayons to textured fabrics and shiny sequins. Sensory-rich experiences stimulate children's senses and promote cognitive development, creativity, and emotional regulation, enhancing their overall sensory processing abilities.



Can You Make a Rainbow with Loose Parts?

MATERIALS

- Printed image of a real rainbow
- At least 3 different types of multi-color materials, e.g.: pom-poms, popsicle sticks, cut straws, geometric shapes, pipe-cleaners, gemstones, feathers, etc.
- Sectional tray to sort and organize materials
- Clear opening for children to explore materials
- Optional: portable acrylic mirror
- You can stand the mirror up in front of your children as they work, or place it down as a base to build over.

DIRECTIONS

- Add various rainbow colored loose parts and materials in a tray or sectional tray.
- In front of the tray and work space, present a picture of real rainbow to act as a reference/source of inspiration.
- Please note, children may not seek to make a rainbow, and that's okay - there is no "right" or "wrong" here! The image of the rainbow is meant to act as a source of inspiration, but the objective is for children to engage with the materials to their liking as that's what will keep them engaged for the longest.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- **Problem-Solving:** Engage in problem-solving as children experiment with various ways to arrange the loose parts to create a cohesive rainbow.
- **Spatial Awareness:** Enhance spatial awareness as children consider the size, shape, and position of each loose part in relation to others while building the rainbow.
- **Creative Expression:** Encourage creative expression as children explore different arrangements and combinations of loose parts to represent a rainbow.
- **Motor Skills Development:** Enhance both fine and gross motor skills as children manipulate and arrange the loose parts to create the rainbow.
- **Color Recognition:** Identify and name different colors of loose parts used in creating rainbows, fostering color recognition skills.



Walking Rainbow Experiment

MATERIALS

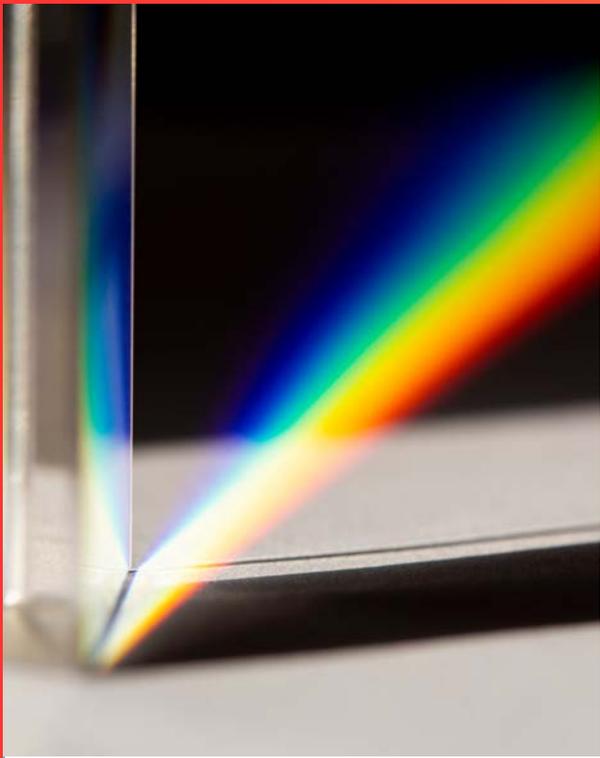
- 7 clear cups
- Paper towels (About 6 half sheets)
- Red, yellow, and blue food coloring
- Measuring cup
- Water

DIRECTIONS

- **Try to invite your children to do as much of this as possible!**
- Line up the 7 cups in a row, and fill the 1st, 3rd, 5th, and 7th cup (at least 3/4 up - a little more is best) with water.
- Add about 5 drops of red food coloring to the 1st & 7th cup.
- Add about 5 drops of yellow food coloring to the 3rd cup.
- Add about 5 drops of blue food coloring to the 5th cup.
- Proceed to fold a half of a paper two times (lengthwise), then fold it in half again. Repeat for other sheets too.
- Place one folded sheet of paper towel in between the first two cups (one end in cup & the other in end in cup 2). Repeat the same for remaining paper towels and cups.
- While setting up this experiment, invite children to make some predictions as to what will happen, for example:
 - "What do you think will happen to the paper towels?"
 - "What do you think will happen with the cups that have colored water? What makes you think that?"

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- **Social and Emotional Development:** Successfully following and executing specific directions instills a sense of responsibility, accountability, and pride.
- **Cognition:**
 - Promotes scientific thinking; prediction making, observations, conclusions, absorption concepts.
 - Other cognitive perks include recognition of colors, focus, and attention, while supporting the ability to order, sequence, and recall various steps.
- **Fine motor skills:** are supported as your children pour, squeeze, and folds (paper towels).
- **Language & Literacy:** Prompting the guiding questions allows for children to utilize relative vocabulary words to express their thoughts and ideas.



Create and Explore Real Rainbows

MATERIALS

- A CD or prism
- If you do not have either, you can try with a mirror
- Small clear container
- Flashlight
- Water
- White Sheet of paper

DIRECTIONS

- **Try to darken the room as much as possible for best results.**
- Fill a small, clear container about halfway with water, then add the CD.
- In front of the container, place down a sheet of white paper.
- Invite children to shine the flashlight over the CD and see if they can generate a rainbow onto their paper.
- Allow them to freely explore these materials, in which they may see how moving the flashlight in different directions will affect clarity, size, and boldness of the rainbow.
- Questions to support the investigation:
 - "What do you think makes a rainbow?"
 - "What makes rainbows appear?"
 - "What makes rainbows disappear?"

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- **Scientific Exploration:** Engage children in hands-on exploration of the scientific concepts of light refraction and dispersion by observing how light interacts with water to form rainbow patterns. Encourage them to ask questions and make predictions about what they observe.
- **Critical Observation:** Enhance children's observational skills as they closely observe the formation and colors of the rainbow produced by the interaction of light and water. Encourage them to describe and compare the different characteristics of the rainbows they create.
- **Fine Motor Coordination:** Develop fine motor skills as children manipulate flashlights and containers of water to control the direction and intensity of light. Allow them to experiment with different ways of holding and moving the flashlights to create various rainbow effects.
- **Creativity and Imagination:** Promote creativity and imagination as children explore different angles, distances, and movements of light sources to create unique rainbow patterns. Encourage them to express themselves artistically by experimenting with different light sources and water containers.
- **Language Development:** Support language development through discussions about the science behind rainbow formation. Encourage children to use descriptive vocabulary to articulate their observations and experiences, fostering communication skills and scientific literacy.



Real Rainbow Sketching

MATERIALS

- A CD or prism
 - If you do not have either, you can try with a mirror
- Small clear container
- Flashlight
- Water
- White Sheet of paper
- Coloring utensils (rainbow colored)

DIRECTIONS

- Try to darken your room as much as possible for best results
- Fill your small, clear container about halfway with water, then add the CD.
- In front of the container, place down a sheet of white paper and coloring utensils.
- Invite children to shine the flashlight over the CD and see if they can generate a rainbow onto their paper.
 - Allow them to freely explore these materials, in which they may see how moving the flashlight in different directions will affect clarity, size, and boldness.
- Your children can then combine the rainbow on their paper with the coloring utensils to see what they come up with. Questions to prompt:
 - "What do you think makes a rainbow?"
 - "What makes rainbows appear?"
 - "What makes rainbows disappear?"

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- **Scientific Exploration:** Engage children in hands-on exploration of the scientific concepts of light refraction and dispersion by observing how light interacts with water to form rainbow patterns. Encourage them to ask questions and make predictions about what they observe.
- **Critical Observation:** Enhance children's observational skills as they closely observe the formation and colors of the rainbow produced by the interaction of light and water. Encourage them to describe and compare the different characteristics of the rainbows they create.
- **Creativity and Imagination:** Promote creativity and imagination as children explore different angles, distances, and movements of light sources to create unique rainbow patterns. Encourage them to express themselves artistically by coloring over and around the rainbow reflections, using a variety of coloring utensils.
- **Language Development:** Support language development through discussions about the science behind rainbow formation. Encourage children to use descriptive vocabulary to articulate their observations and experiences, fostering communication skills and scientific literacy.

DIY Leprechaun Trap!

MATERIALS

- Cardboard box or shoebox
- Craft sticks or popsicle sticks
- Green construction paper or paint
- Glue
- Scissors
- Tape
- Gold coins or chocolate coins
- Assorted craft materials for decoration (glitter, sequins, markers, etc.)
- Colored paper or paint for rainbow

DIRECTIONS

- Begin by decorating the cardboard box or shoebox with green construction paper or paint to give it a vibrant and inviting appearance.
- Use craft sticks or popsicle sticks to create a ladder leading up to the top of the box, where the leprechaun will enter.
- Cut out a trap door in the lid or top of the box, leaving a space large enough for the leprechaun to fit through.
- Decorate the trap with enticing decorations such as gold coins or shiny objects to lure the leprechaun inside.
- Add a rainbow to the scene by creating one from colored paper or painting one directly onto the box. This adds a colorful and whimsical touch to the trap.
- Set up the trap in a location where leprechauns are likely to visit, such as near a garden or under a tree where rainbows may appear.
- Wait patiently and keep a close eye on the trap to see if you catch a mischievous leprechaun!



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- **Creative Expression:** Children will express their creativity by decorating and designing their own leprechaun trap, choosing materials and decorations to make it enticing to the leprechaun.
- **Fine Motor Skills:** Cutting, gluing, and decorating the trap will help develop fine motor skills and hand-eye coordination as children manipulate small objects and use craft tools.
- **Problem-Solving:** Designing a trap to catch a leprechaun encourages problem-solving skills as children brainstorm ideas and strategies to entice and capture the elusive creature.
- **Imaginative Play:** Engaging in the process of setting up and monitoring the leprechaun trap fosters imaginative play, allowing children to immerse themselves in the magical world of folklore.



Rainbow Delivery!

MATERIALS

- Materials will vary based upon what your children want to do.

DIRECTIONS

- To promote a greater sense of community appreciation and involvement, we'd like to welcome your children to do something kind for a member/establishment of the community. Some options include (but are not limited to):
 - Creating (and delivering) a picture that includes rainbow colors (red, yellow, green, blue, and purple).
 - Baking a batch of rainbow colored cookies & delivering them.
 - Picking, arranging, and delivering a bouquet of rainbow colored flowers.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- **Social Awareness:** Cultivate social awareness and empathy as children consider the preferences and interests of the recipients when designing their gifts. Encourage discussions about the importance of kindness, generosity, and compassion in building positive relationships and contributing to the well-being of others.
- **Community Engagement:** Promote community engagement and a sense of belonging as children deliver their handmade gifts to individuals or establishments within the community. This activity fosters connections with others, instilling a sense of pride and responsibility in contributing to the happiness and unity of the community.
- **Pride and Self-Esteem:** Foster a sense of pride and self-esteem as children witness the positive impact of their handmade gifts on others within the community. Celebrating their ability to create something meaningful and valuable reinforces their sense of accomplishment and self-worth, empowering them to recognize their capabilities and contributions.
- **Cognitive Development:** Stimulate cognitive development through planning and decision-making as children select materials, colors, and designs for their gifts. By engaging in the creative process, children exercise critical thinking skills and problem-solving abilities, fostering cognitive flexibility and innovation.



MADE FOR CHILDREN. DESIGNED FOR YOU.

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