



Mixing Greens

Grades Pre-K – 2

MATERIALS

- Blue, yellow, and white tempera paint
- Cup of water
- Paintbrush
- Sponges
- Paper
- Optional: Plant

LEARNING GOAL

Children will explore mixing blue, yellow, and white to make different greens. Children can mix the different greens they notice on a plant.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What are the primary colors? What makes them special?
- What happens if we mix blue and yellow?
- How can we mix light green?
- How can we mix dark green?
- What happens if we mix white with different greens?
- How can we mix the colors we see on a plant?

ACTIVITY

1. What colors can we mix using blue, yellow, and white? Let's find out. First, get your brush ready to paint. If it's comfortable, hold it in the middle with your fingers on one side and thumb on the other.
2. You're ready to paint! Start by dipping your brush in the yellow paint. Not too much, just the tip. Then, paint some yellow on your paper.
3. Let's add some blue! Before you dip your brush in the blue, let's clean it.
 - Dip your brush in the water and gently swish it on the bottom. "One, two, three, stop!"

- Then, gently tap it on the sponge to dry.
4. Now you can add some blue next to the yellow. What happens when they meet?
They make green!
 5. Look at the green that you made. Is it light or dark?
 6. How do you think you can make a lighter green? Should you add more blue or more yellow?
 7. How can you make a darker green?
 8. What happens if you add white to one of the greens?
 9. Once you've explored mixing different greens, you can explore mixing the greens that you see on a plant. Look closely. What kind of greens do you see? How can you mix each one?
 10. Let's look at what your painting.
 - What kinds of green did you make?
 - How did you make them?

Extensions:

Try mixing green with crayons, watercolors, or oil pastels.

What different kinds of green can you make with each?

Try mixing the colors you see on other plants.

Find another plant in your home. What colors do you notice? How can you mix the different colors that you see?

Check out more painting activities on Studio in a School's Teach and Create Studio website:

<https://createart.studioinaschool.org/>

Activity courtesy of Julie Applebaum, Andrea Burgay, Sassy Kohlmeyer, and Lia Zuvilivia