

# MOUSE PAINT BY ELLEN STOLL WALSH

## ACTIVITY #1: COLOUR MIXING

### SUPPLIES:

- Food Colours (blue, yellow, red)
- Eye Droppers
- Glasses with water x 3
- Ice cube trays

### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Add food colouring to each glass of water, creating yellow liquid, blue liquid and red liquid.
2. Place all of these on a towel-lined tray (to minimize mess!)
3. Using the eye droppers, encourage your child to transfer the coloured liquids to their ice cube tray.
4. Your child will experiment mixing the colours and seeing what they can create using the primary colours as base.

### PROMPTS:

-Encourage your child to make predictions before they mix the colours.

*"What do you think will happen when we mix (blank) with (blank)?"*

-Help them to observe the change in water amounts in the glasses.

*"Which glass has the least amount of water?" or "Which glass has the most, or greatest, amount of water?"*

-You can also use different sized containers to talk about capacity:

*"This glass holds more than this glass" or "this glass holds less than this glass".*

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## ACTIVITY #2: COLOUR MIXED SUNCATCHERS

### SUPPLIES:

- Plastic Sandwich Bags
- Paint in Primary Colours (Red, Yellow, Blue)
- Tape (to secure the ends of the bag)
- Large or Medium-Sized Cotton Ball (optional, this represents the mouse in our book!)

### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Put a squirt of two primary colours in each bag (yellow/red, red/blue, blue/yellow).
2. Seal the plastic bags, and secure the ends with tape.
3. If using the cotton ball, encourage your child to pinch the cotton ball and move it across the plastic bag, mixing the two colours just like the mice did in our story! If not using the cotton ball, have your child use their fingers in a mess-free finger-painting experience!
4. After the paints have been mixed, and your child is finished experimenting, you may want to tape the bags against a window. This creates a fun suncatcher for you to enjoy!

### PROMPTS:

- Encourage your child to make predictions about what colours will be created.
- Ask your child to predict what would happen if you added more of one colour than another? Help them to use the mathematical concepts of “more than” and “less than”. Test their theory to see what happens!
- Ask your child to describe the colours that they create. Instead of “green” how about “frog green” or “slimy green”.