



## Seeing Color and Light

Let's explore how our eyes work in the dark! Go with your child into a dark space and stay there for about a minute. Then, have them turn on a light and look in a mirror to watch what happens to their eyes once the light goes on. (If you don't have a mirror nearby, you can use the selfie setting on the camera of a smart phone as a mirror. Or, you can have them look at your eyes as they re-adjust from the dark to the light.) Your child may also be interested in noticing how they are gradually able to see things as their eyes adjust to the dark.

For the second activity, you will need a small collection of different-colored objects, such as barrettes, crayons, or markers. Ask your child whether they think they can see color in the dark. Turn off the lights (and close the shades if necessary), and practice counting to 100 while your eyes adjust to the dark. Then, hand your child an object and have them guess which color it is. Turn the lights back on to see whether their guess was correct!

In the space below, have your child draw or write about these experiments with seeing color and light. If desired, upload the drawing on the **"UChicago Ready, Set, STEM!" Facebook group** in the Topic: **Seeing Color and Light**.

Find more activities like this at: <http://www.ucreadyssetstem.com>  
*Ready, Set, STEM is developed at the University of Chicago and  
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