

## Color Mixing

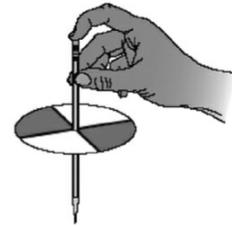
Let's try a couple of activities to explore how colors mix to create new colors!

### Mixing Paints

Using any kind of kid-friendly paints you can find, encourage your child to experiment with color mixing. Have them start with two of the primary colors (red, yellow, or blue) and experiment to see what happens when they use different amounts of each color (e.g., lots of red and a little yellow, then add a bit more yellow and notice how the color changes). Explain that this is how scientists and engineers work; they change a little bit at a time so they can figure out what is happening in their experiments. Once your child has explored several combinations using two primary colors, introduce a few more colors and have them predict which new colors they can make. Encourage your child to use the colors they have created to create a painting!

### Making Color Spinners

Find a small white paper plate (or cut a circle out of thick white paper or card stock), yellow and blue markers, and a pencil or pen. Help your child divide the circle into four same-size sections. In an alternating pattern, color two of the sections yellow and two of the sections blue. Insert a pencil or pen into the center of the circle until the tip of the pencil is about two inches below the circle, as pictured.



Ask your child to explain what they think will happen to the colors when you spin the circle. Show your child how to spin it like a top, then discuss what they notice. What happens to the colors when they are spinning? What happens once they have stopped spinning? Help your child create new spinners with different color combinations and predict, then observe, what happens when they spin them.

If you are interested, please share photos and videos of your color mixing work or your child's paintings on the "**UChicago Ready, Set, STEM!**" Facebook group in the Topic: **Color Mixing**.

Find more activities like this at: <http://www.ucreadysstem.com>

*Ready, Set, STEM is developed at the University of Chicago and sponsored by The Boeing Company*

