

# Walking Water Science Experiment – Making Colors

4-H Line and Design Project

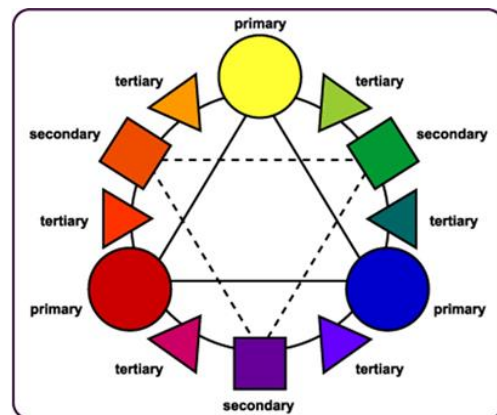
Part of the Family and Consumer Sciences 4-H Project Series

You have learned about the color wheel and about how primary colors mixed together make secondary colors. The purpose of this experiment is to actually make a secondary color from primary colors using what is called in science capillary action.

**Capillary action** (or wicking) is the ability of a liquid to flow from one place to another without the assistance of, or even in opposition to, external forces like gravity. That means that liquid moves from one place to another. You will see how this works in this experiment.

## Supplies needed:

- Three (3) short empty glasses (wide mouth jelly jars) or cups
- Water
- Food coloring
- Paper towels



## Instructions:

1. Choose 2 primary colors to use in the experiment (red and yellow), (blue and yellow), (red and blue).
2. Create a hypothesis or statement of what color you think will be produced when these 2 colors are mixed.
3. Fill 2 jars with water for each color and add food coloring. You will need an additional empty glass of the same size to put between the two jars you have just filled with water and food coloring.
4. Cut a paper towel in half and then fold it into quarters lengthwise. Stick one end of the paper towel into the colored water and one end into the empty jar.
5. Wait for the water to collect in the middle jar to see what color is formed.

## What Did You See Happen:

1. What color was made in the middle jar?
2. Was your hypothesis correct?
3. Explain how capillary action caused the new color to form.
4. Think of how you can use this information when making colors for painting, dyeing fabric, and/or doing tie dye.

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