

COLOR SCAVENGER HUNT

DISCOVERY PLAY ACTIVITIES WITH YOUR YOUNG CHILD

Every child is different, and these are only suggested adaptations and activities. Do what works best for encouraging your child's independent exploration during this suggested play activity. Consult your pediatrician, physical therapist (PT), and/or occupational therapist (OT) first.



STEM Concept(s): Structure & Properties of Materials, Observe

Help your child **observe, recognize, and identify** colors of materials and objects in their environments. Begin by handing them a color card and telling them a number of household items to find. For older children, ask them to **predict how many** items for a color they think they can find.

STEM IDEAS/WORDS

- Colors
- Match/Sort
- Numbers & counting

MATERIALS

- Color cards (see following pages)
- Household items

OPEN-ENDED QUESTIONS

- *Can you find something that is (color)?*
- *How many items are (color)?*
- *What colors do you think you will find in our home?*



COLOR SCAVENGER HUNT

ADAPTATIONS

DISCOVERY PLAY ACTIVITIES WITH YOUR YOUNG CHILD

Every child is different, and these are only suggested adaptations and activities. Do what works best for encouraging your child's independent exploration during this suggested play activity. Consult your pediatrician, physical therapist (PT), and/or occupational therapist (OT) first.

ENVIRONMENT

- If possible, limit background noise & distractions
- Wear sunglasses/hat if sensitive to bright light and going outside for the scavenger hunt
- Place objects within reach

MATERIALS

- Have child's assistive technology ready and available, including augmentative & alternative communication (AAC) device and/or power wheelchair
- Add additional material(s), such as magnets or Velcro, to objects to make it easier to grasp, lift, or turn
- Ensure the color cards and their background have a strong contrast
- Use color cards of various sizes
- Labeling colors to help children with colorblind find objects

INSTRUCTION

- Simplify the activity beginning with only two color cards or only have household items of two colors with reach
- Use a variety of methods of communication (e.g., sign language, gestures) to meaningfully engage children
- Provide visual prompts to help the child communicate
- Provide hand-under-hand support to help the child find objects
- Model matching objects by color



Follow your child's lead and interests. Enthusiastically ask your child questions about what they are doing and what they like.



Answer your child's questions. If you do not know the answer, work together with your child to discover the answer.



Encourage your child to participate in the activity as much as possible. Praise your child's efforts and successes.

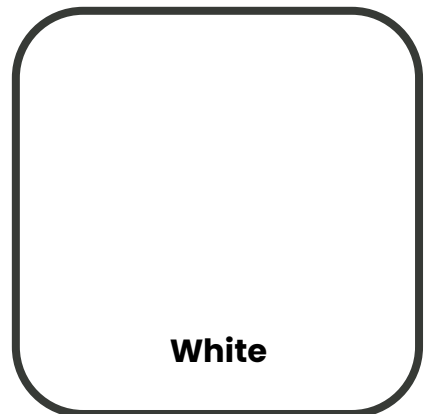
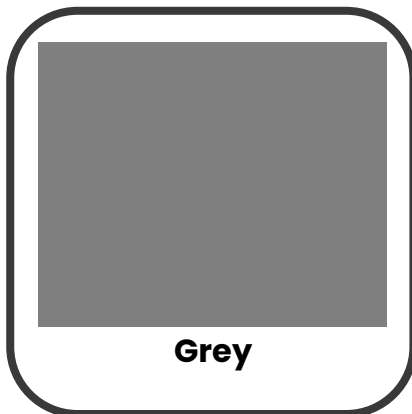
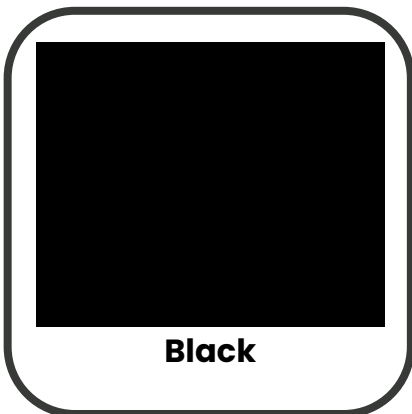
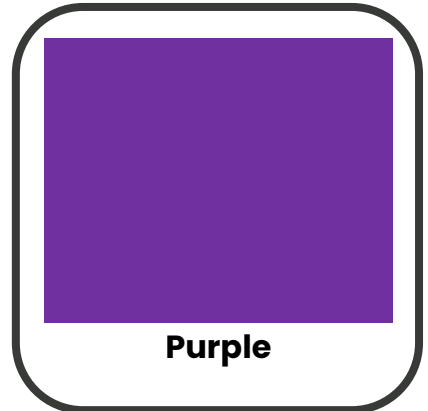
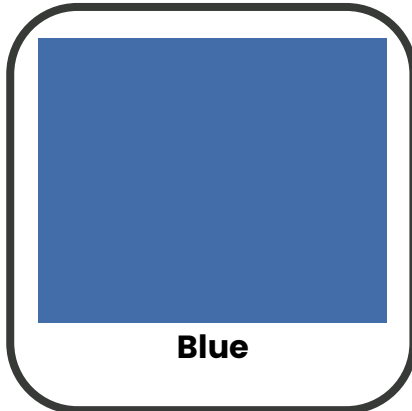
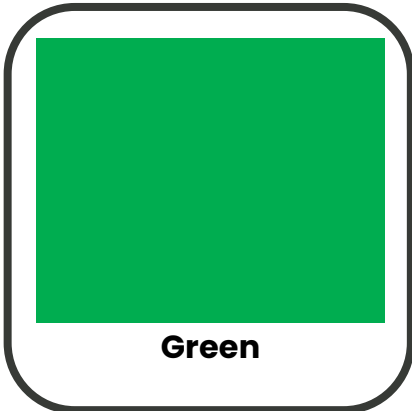
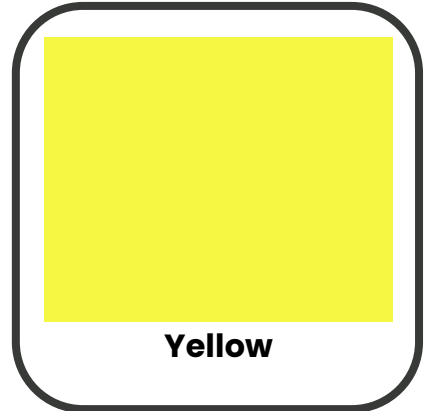
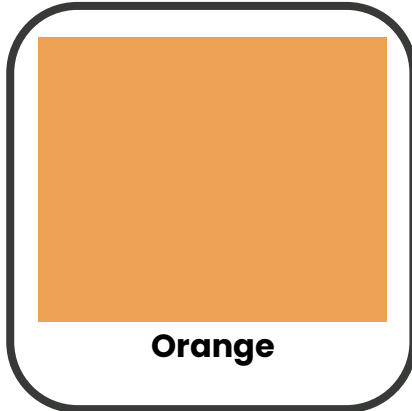
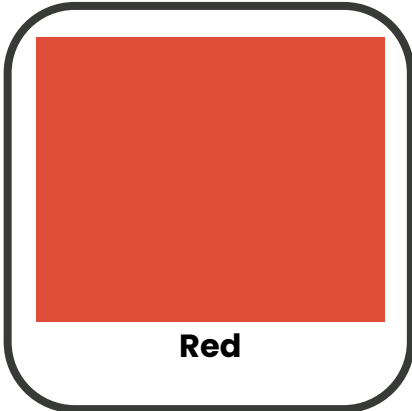


COLOR SCAVENGER HUNT ADAPTATIONS

DISCOVERY PLAY ACTIVITIES WITH YOUR YOUNG CHILD

Every child is different, and these are only suggested adaptations and activities. Do what works best for encouraging your child's independent exploration during this suggested play activity. Consult your pediatrician, physical therapist (PT), and/or occupational therapist (OT) first.

VISUAL CUES USE TO SIGNAL NEXT STEPS



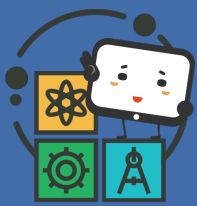
Follow your child's lead and interests. Enthusiastically ask your child questions about what they are doing and what they like.



Answer your child's questions. If you do not know the answer, work together with your child to discover the answer.



Encourage your child to participate in the activity as much as possible. Praise your child's efforts and successes.



COLOR SCAVENGER HUNT

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY IDEAS

DISCOVERY PLAY ACTIVITIES WITH YOUR YOUNG CHILD

Every child is different, and these are only suggested adaptations and activities. Do what works best for encouraging your child's independent exploration during this suggested play activity. Consult your pediatrician, physical therapist (PT), and/or occupational therapist (OT) first.

- Play "I Spy" something [insert color]
- Build upon the activity to find objects that contain two and three colors.
- Collect the items and then sort them by color or another characteristic (shape, function, etc.).
- Take the activity outside and help the child find objects and guess what color they might be.
- Check out our Storybook Conversations for *Mouse Paint* by Ellen Stoll Walsh
- Check out these great books about colors:
 - *Colors* by John Reiss
 - *Broken Crayons Still Color* by Toni Collier & Whitney Bak
 - *How the Crayons Saved the Rainbow* by Monica Sweeney
 - *Mixed: A Colorful Story* by Arree Chung

