

## Mixing Colors



At the Desert Caballeros Western Museum, guests who check out the Caballeros Explorer Pack will find color paddles to view their surroundings in new ways and learn about color mixing.



Here is how you can recreate the same experience at home.

### Supplies

- Food coloring, primary colors **YELLOW**, **RED** and **BLUE**
- 3 clear containers (glass, plastic or water bottles)
- Water
- Spoon or stir stick
- Plastic tablecloth or covering



## Mixing Colors

**Step 1:** Fill 3 clear containers half full with water

**Step 2:** Add one or two drops of food color to each container. Use only the primary colors **YELLOW**, **RED** and **BLUE**. Stir for even color.



**Step 3:** Now you have created a transparent color, just like the color paddles. Look through the container and see how items look around you. You can even hold containers up to the light and see reflections of color. Try holding two together. Do you see a reflection of a new color?

**Step 4:** By mixing two primary colors together, you can make new colors known as secondary colors. Secondary colors are **GREEN**, **ORANGE** and **PURPLE**. Try this out by adding one drop of blue to the yellow container. Stir and watch the water turn **GREEN**!



**Step 5:** By mixing one primary color and one secondary color, you can make intermediate colors. Try pouring the blue water into the green water and watch as it turns a blue-green or **TEAL** color.

Continue mixing and experimenting. You can dip strips of paper into the water and dye it different colors. Pour the colored water into an ice tray and have colored ice cubes. Add a little vinegar and you are ready to dye eggs. So many possibilities when mixing colors!