

# I Love Colours



**AGE:** 3-5



**TIME:** 30-45 minutes



**MAIN AIM:** To enable students to name different colours.

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## VOCABULARY / LANGUAGE FOCUS

- Red, yellow, green, blue
- Pink, orange, brown, grey
- Balloon
- Is it..?
- Yes, no

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## MATERIALS

 ✓ = included at the end of the plan

- Pictures of different coloured balloons ✓
- Balloon templates ✓
- Real balloons if available (red, yellow, green and blue) with string/wool to tie them
  - 4 colour cards (red, yellow, green and blue)
- Paper, coloured pens/pencils (red, yellow, green and blue)
- Something oval or circular to draw around for the balloons

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## PREPARATION

- If you have them, blow up a red, yellow, green and blue balloon, attach string or wool and hang them in the room near the children.
- Print the pictures of the balloons, 2 sets of each. Place one set on a wall or somewhere all the children can see them.

## 1

**LEAD-IN AND VOCABULARY**

- Look up at the hanging balloons or the pictures of the balloons on the wall.
- Point to and say the colours of the balloons, chanting their names.
- Sit and face the children. Hold the 4 colour cards up in front of you, one behind the other. Say the names of the colours as you go through them, getting faster and faster. Make it fun! Gradually stop saying the names of the colours as the children start saying them independently.

## 2

**LANGUAGE FOCUS**

- Say the rhyme below, pointing to each coloured balloon as you say the colour. As you say “me”, point to yourself. For the word “you”, gesture towards the children. Use intonation for the last line and shrug your shoulders with the palms of your hands facing up, to demonstrate asking a question.
- Say the names of the colours, one by one.

**Rhyme:**

Red, yellow, green and blue,  
Bright balloons for me and you!  
Red, yellow, green and blue,  
Can you name the colours too?

Red! Yellow! Green! Blue!

## 3

**CREATIVE ACTIVITY**

- Give the children some paper and colouring pens/pencils. Support them to draw around something circular four times, draw a string on it and colour each one a different colour, red, blue, yellow and green.
- Depending on resources, the children could also paint or use collage materials.
- Alternatively, give the children balloon templates and invite them to colour/decorate them.



The most important point when children are being creative is the process. It doesn't have to be perfect, simply ensure the end product is what the children have created themselves.

## 4

**CONSOLIDATION**

- If you have balloons, blow up one balloon at a time. As you do so, ask the children what colour it is by saying "Is it [blue]?" Elicit a response and then repeat for each colour.
- Pretend the balloon slips out of your hand and let it fly off into the air!
- Say to the children, "Is it the [red] balloon?" Encourage the children to say "yes" or "no".
- Hold up a pot of coloured pencils and take one out. Say to the children "Is it [blue]?" Elicit a response. Continue with the other colours.



Ensure the children are well aware what the "stop" and "listen" signals are for your particular class, as they can get excited when the balloons fly into the air!



## ADDITIONAL IDEAS / EXTENSION

- Introduce the second verse of the song below. Use balloon pictures to introduce them and sing in the same way as verse one.

Pink, orange, brown and grey,  
 Bright balloons for us to play!  
 Pink, orange, brown and grey  
 Bright balloons, hip, hip hoorah!

Pink! Orange! Brown! Grey!

- Invite the children to sit in a circle. Choose one child to go in the middle. Invite the child to catch a balloon that you toss up high and to say what colour it is. Repeat with other children and different coloured balloons.
- If you don't have balloons, put all the balloon cards face down on the floor and invite a child to walk around the inside of the circle. When you say "stop!" (or ring a bell/clap) this child chooses one card and turns it over. Invite the child to say what colour it is or say to the child. "Is it..?" eliciting a "yes/no" response. Support as necessary.
- You can also play the above game using coloured crayons. Have them in a pot and invite a child to close their eyes. Encourage all the children to say "close your eyes". This child then chooses one crayon and says what colour it is. Continue, choosing a different child each time.
- Hold up a coloured balloon or picture of one and ask the children to say the colour. Then invite them all to go around the room and find something that colour, either pointing to it or bringing it to you, depending on the number of children in your class.



### IDEAS / ADAPTATIONS FOR LARGE CLASSES

1. Rather than individual balloons for the creative activity, make a class display of balloons where all the children can work in groups on a different coloured balloon. This ensures everyone is involved and also builds teamwork and cooperation between the children.
2. Instead of tossing a balloon up into the air with the children in a circle, you throw the balloon up into the air at the front of the class and away from everyone - for safety. Invite the children to call out the colour of the balloon when it's in the air.



### IDEAS / ADAPTATIONS FOR ONE TO ONE CLASSES

- This plan works equally well when teaching one to one - as the teacher you simply become the other children.
- Lay out the balloons on the floor in a restricted area and if you have one, set a timer. Close your eyes and say each colour, inviting the child to go and pick up the correct colour balloon.





















