READY, SET, KINDERGARTEN! COIOIS

Why is it important? Colors are something that your child likely is already familiar with. Even if they're already proficient, distinguishing colors is an important skill called categorizing, and it's good to check in and make sure your child is able to do it. Remember when all women were mommy and all animals were cows? Your child needs to be able to categorize and differentiate in order to make sense of the world.

Everyday Tips: This is a great week to play the never-annoying, always fun game: I Spy! While you're driving, have your child tell you about the different colors they see. Have them be specific! Is it blue or light blue? Is it blueish greenish? Is it purpleish blue? Put a name to those colors! Another easy activity to do anytime is color with your child. Ask about the color choices they're making and encourage them to mix their own. The more color categories we can learn, the better capacity we have to make other categories later.

Activity 1: Light Tables are so expensive, but they're a great way for your child to explore mixing color and light. Make your own by putting a flashlight under a clear tub! You can use toys, like Magnatiles, or something lying around the house, like colored tissue paper, to play!

Activity 2: Use the color hunt sheet to do a color hunt in your house! Bonus points if you have a magnifying glass your child can use.

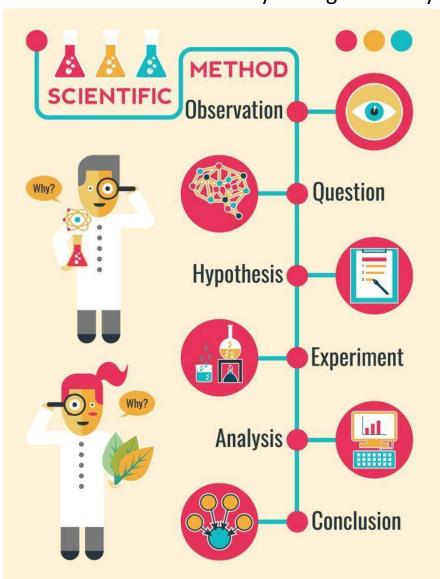


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Bonus

The Scientific Method

In order to color hunt, we used the scientific method. My kid's only 4, why do we care about the scientific method!? Your child's brain is beginning to enter the "use it or lose it" phase of development. True success and understanding in science later in life starts with you introducing them to it now. If they've never been introduced to it, their brain may decide it'll never be important and get rid of those connections. Don't worry- it's easy to do and you might already be doing it!



Example

Observation: What do we see? We see that the pot is boiling.

Question: How does daddy make the pot boil?

Hypothesis: I always see daddy put salt in the pot, so I think that's what makes it boil.

Experiment: Salt a pot of water. If that doesn't work, go back through the steps.

Analysis: We salted the water in the pot and it didn't do anything. We tried other experiments and found that making the stove hot did make the water boil.

Conclusion: Salting water doesn't make it boil, but heating it on the stove does!