

## Paint and Colour Lesson with Infants

### ‘A Sunny Day in The Garden’

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**Curriculum Strand:** Paint and Colour (Visual Arts Curriculum p.19)

**Objective:** *Use colour to express vividly recalled feelings, experiences and imaginings (p.19)*

**Linkage:** Fabric and Fibre > *Make simple collages (p.23)*

**Integration Possibilities:**

*Oral Language: Focus on descriptive detail and begin to be explicit in relation to people, places, times, processes, events, colour, shape, size, position (p.20)*

*Science: (1) Observe, discuss and identify a variety of plants and animals in different habitats in the immediate environment (p.24) (2) Sort and group living things into sets (p.24)*

*Geography: (1) Observe and discuss a variety of weather conditions using simple vocabulary (p.26)*

*(2) Recognise that some weather patterns are associated with seasonal change and distinguish between summer and winter (p.26)*

### Developing this Activity in Class:

**Materials Needed:** Paper  
Palettes  
Extra palettes or plates for mixing colours  
Blue, red, yellow, white and black paint  
Water containers  
Selection of brushes  
J-cloths

**Stimulus:** “What can you see in the garden on a sunny day? Describe the flowers. What colours can you see? Are they all the same? Do all the flowers look the same? Are there any animals, insects or birds? What colours are they? Do any people go into the garden? Do you play any games there? Do you ever eat in the garden? What is your favourite part of the garden? Do you ever help with the work there? What is your favourite job?”

**Activity:** Having talked about the garden and all they like to do there, the children make paintings based upon their recalled images. Encourage them to talk about their paintings as they work. As they have only been given the primary colours they will discover how to make ‘new’ colours by mixing them. (This usually causes great excitement and is wonderful to see and hear!) When the children have finished their paintings, they sign them just as artists do!

### ***Evaluation/Looking and Responding:***

This will be happening as the children work. When they have finished give them time to discuss their paintings. They will enjoy explaining how they got the ‘new colours’ by mixing the primaries. This could be done with the ‘Artist’s Chair’, where children take turns to show and describe their paintings. Display the children’s paintings in the classroom or corridor.

Encourage the children to respond to paintings such as ‘A Girl with a Watering Can’ by Renoir, ‘House in a Garden’ by Pablo Picasso, ‘Southern Gardens’ By Paul Klee and ‘Garden Pond’ by Jane O’Malley

**Extension Activity:** The children could make a collage of the garden using coloured tissue paper and cut-outs from magazines. They could also incorporate scraps of coloured fabrics and fibres.

**ICT Possibilities:** Visit the website <http://www.nga.gov/kids/zone/collagemachine.htm>  
This is an interactive game where the children can make a collage using pictures of things found in a garden. (*You need Shockwave on your computer*)

**Using the I Am An Artist DVD:**

The *Paint and Colour programmes* on the DVD offer opportunities to listen to the children discussing colours and their reactions to mixing colours.

**Note:**

When I started teaching, I didn't have a sink in my classroom. I used two buckets – one full of clean water, one empty. The water in the containers was changed by pouring it into the empty bucket and refilling from the other. (It also cuts down on messing in the corridor). Buckets can be obtained from hotels and restaurants – all their mayonnaise comes in buckets and they are happy to give some of them away. Old towels can be cut up for use at the tables and they are great for cleaning up at the end of the lesson.

**Relevant Artists:**

Auguste Renoir  
Pablo Picasso  
Paul Klee  
Jane O'Malley  
(Other artists you think are relevant)

**Relevant Websites:**

*House in a Garden* by Pablo Picasso  
<http://www.hermitagemuseum.org/fcgi-bin/db2www/fullSize.mac/fullSize?selLang=English&dlViewId=U%2B40SQ00ONKYC9%2B23HE&size=big&selCateg=picture&dlCategId=ZG%2B407FTFFVLT%2B234N5S&comeFrom=quick>

*Girl with a Watering Can* by Auguste Renoir  
<http://www.renoir.org.yu/gallery.asp?id=1>

*Southern Gardens* by Paul Klee  
<http://www.sai.msu.su/wm/paint/auth/klee/klee.southern-gardens.jpg>

*Garden Pond* by Jane O'Malley  
[http://www.graphicstudiodublin.com/artists/jane\\_omalley.html](http://www.graphicstudiodublin.com/artists/jane_omalley.html)