



round and round

Introduce your pre-schooler to a world of vibrant colours with the help of an easy-to-make colour wheel.



Toys typically come in vibrant colours, and at the age of four or five, most children should be able to recognise the different colours of their toys, and also to name these colours. You may wonder why naming colours is a milestone for a child who, at this age, is expected to be able to recognise the alphabets and perhaps even write his or her own name. The fact is, it is difficult for children to understand colours especially when it comes to mixing colours and different shades.

A colour wheel will go a long way in developing your child's familiarity with colours. Children generally have no problems identifying primary colours like red, blue and yellow. Secondary colours such as purple, green and orange can be a tad difficult. But spinning a colour wheel coloured blue and red, for example, will introduce your child to the colour purple.

HANDS ON AND GET STARTED

The simple crafting of the colour wheel will improve your pre-schooler's fine motor skills. Allow him to choose his own colours for the wheel to encourage creativity, and to give him a better understanding of how colours mix together. Your child should have begun to learn writing and painting at this age, so he is definitely ready to take a part in home crafts.

Making a colour wheel requires minimal preparation. Help your pre-schooler to draw a circle on a piece of cardboard or construction paper, and using a child-safe pair of arts scissors, to cut this out.

Divide this into quadrants. Pick two colours and colour alternating quadrants in each colour. Poke a hole in the centre of the circle. Insert a chopstick through the hole. Place the chopstick into a large straw — now your child has a colour wheel that spins freely!

Whether it is colour pencils or paints, provide an assortment of different colours for your child to experiment with in the colour wheel. Studies have shown that children generally dislike the colours brown and grey. Increased interaction will help them understand these colours, so feel free to include them in your colour wheels!

COLOUR CAROUSEL

Science Centre Singapore has provided a step-by-step guide to making a colour wheel. Start experimenting with your little one now!

WHAT YOU NEED

- 3 cardboard pieces cut into circles with a hole in the centre to fit a chopstick through
- 1 straw
- 1 chopstick
- Green, blue and red colour pencils



COLOUR WHEEL



1

Divide the cardboard pieces into four quadrants and colour as shown in the picture.



2

Insert the chopstick through the centre of the cardboard pieces, leaving a small space in between the pieces.



3

Place the chopstick into the straw.

Spin & observe the effects

