

Sample Activity
Color Dance

Color Dance (Jonas,1989) is a delightful book about children dancing with colorful scarves and discovering how colors change.

Teacher's Role

Plan to read *Color Dance* and other imaginative books about color. Display poster reproductions of Degas' ballet dancers or other posters of people dancing and moving to music. Observe color changes with many different transparent and colorful materials, including chiffon scarves, tissue paper, colored cellophane, or colored glue. Attach large sheets of colorful cellophane to the classroom windows. Place color paddles or color discovery tubes near the windows. When the sun shines into the room, it will reflect the color changes. Invite children to take sheets of cellophane or chiffon scarves outside and look through them. They might place two colors on top of one another and discover a new color.



Outcomes

When participating in this activity, children will . . .

- Explore the many different ways they can move their bodies.
- Develop an understanding of spatial awareness when moving with scarves.
- Observe the effects of color mixing when crossing two scarves of different colors.

Move to the Music

Materials

- *Color Dance*
- A large open space
- Colorful scarves or streamers
- Record, cassette, or CD player
- Instrumental music.



Procedure

Set out colorful scarves or streamers along with a tape player that children can use by themselves. Invite children to use the scarves or streamers and move to any type of music. Try Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons* or any other instrumental music that has a variety of soft-loud, fast-slow, or high-low sounds.

Adaptations

Loosely tie scarves around children's wrists or attach Velcro loops to the scarves for children who may have difficulty holding the scarves in their hands.



Extensions

Try free expression with scarves or streamers without musical accompaniment. Reenact the story of the children in the book.