

# The New York Public Library

# At Home Storytime for Families

## Let's Explore Light & Color!

Here are some songs to sing together!

### Red & Yellow, Green & Blue!

(Sing to the Tune of "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star")

Red and Yellow, Green and Blue,  
These are the colors around you  
Red for a flower, Green for a tree  
Yellow for the sun,  
And Blue for the sea  
Red and Yellow, Green and Blue,  
These are the colors around you you.

### If You're Wearing Red Today

(Sung to the tune of "Mary Had A Little Lamb")

If you're wearing Red today, Red today, Red today;  
If you're wearing Red today  
Stand up and shout "Hooray!"

(Use as many colors as your child is wearing, and don't forget accessories! Also try to singing this song in the morning with your child as you get dressed.)

### Virtual Read Alouds of Favorite Books

#### You Are Light

by Aaron Becker

Some questions to ask during or after the story:

*Where do you think the light comes from?*

*(Point to a circle in the book.) How does this color make you feel inside?*

*Where else do you see light?*

#### Color Dance

by Ann Jonas

Some questions to ask during or after the story:

*(As you read) What do you think would happen if colors mixed together?*

*What can we use to have our own color dance?*

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Here is an activity the whole family can do together!

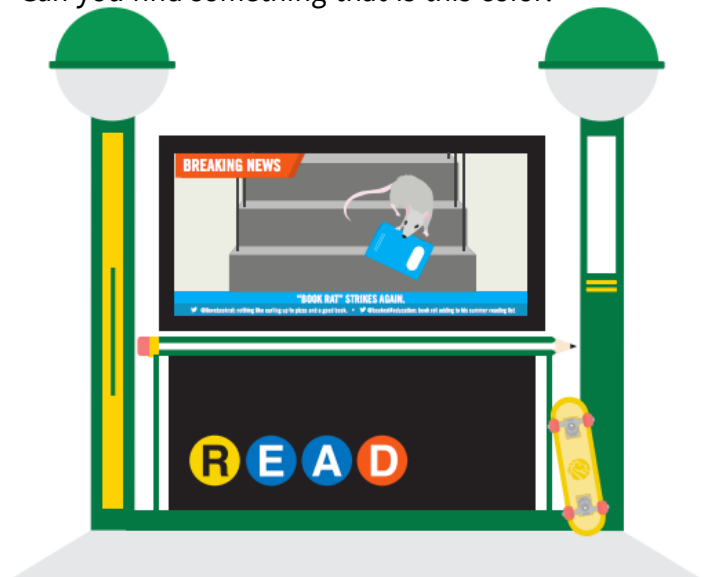
### No Mess Finger Painting

Materials: 1 gallon sized sealable plastic bag  
Strong tape, such as painter's tape  
White paper, such as cardstock or printer paper  
Washable finger paint or food coloring and water

Take the sheet of paper and carefully squirt some drops of paint onto it. (But not too much!) You can start with one, or have your child choose which colors they would like. Place the drops on different parts of the paper, but take care to stay away from the very edges. Open up the plastic bag and slowly place the paper inside of it. Press out any excess air and seal the bag at the top so that the paint will not spill out, double-sealing it with masking tape for extra security. Place the plastic bag on a table. (Tip: You can also tape the corners of the bag to the table so that it will stay more firmly in place.) Have your child use their fingers to push and swirl the paint around through the plastic bag's surface.

### Parent Tip:

As children grow, their vocabulary often has to catch up with their ability to recognize objects. They might recognize a phone, for example, but may not know how to say the word itself. This also applies to the names of colors. One way to help them is by drawing and filling in circles with different colors on pieces of paper. If a child doesn't yet recognize the name for the color "green," hold up the green circle and say, "Can you find something that is this color?"



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