

COLOUR MIXING

It's easy to mix paints to make new colours...
Using just three colours you can create all colours of the rainbow.

The three **Primary** colours are -

Red, Yellow, Blue

They are the only colours that can't be mixed from other colours.

The three **Secondary** colours are -

Green, Orange, Purple/Violet

They are each a mixture of two primary colours.

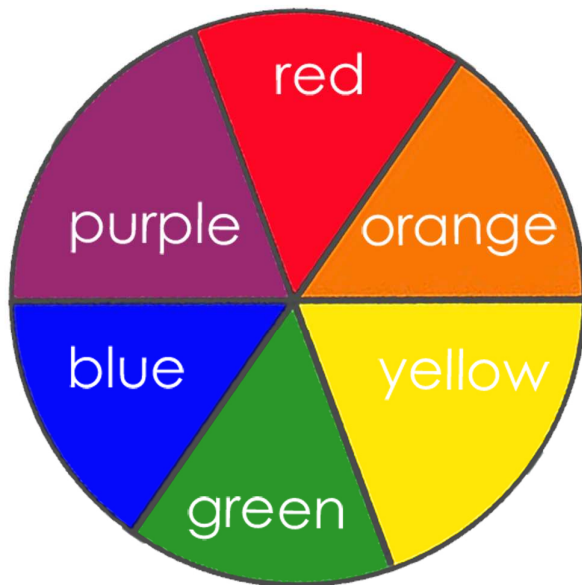
(On the colour wheel they are located between the colours they are made from.)

Red+Blue = Purple Blue+Yellow = Green

Yellow+Red = Orange

Colours opposite each other on the colour wheel are called **Complementary** colours -

Purple - Yellow, Red - Green, Blue - Orange



This is a colour wheel. It shows the relationships between the colours.

The **Tone** of a colour means how light or dark it is.

You can change the tone of a colour by adding black or white, or by diluting the colour

Tints are colours with white added.
(Red+White = Pink)

Shades are colours with Black added.
(White+Black = Grey)

Another way to darken a colour is to add some of its complementary colour. This produces a very dark

colour. Try mixing blue+orange, yellow+purple, green+red...

Tones are good for showing light and shade in a painting and how colours change going into the distance...

Monochrome means 'one colour'. A painting in monochrome is done using only one colour in different tones (light and dark).

A monochrome colour scheme could include any colour mixed with white or black - or used on its own and diluted.

Warm colours and Cool colours:

Warm - Red or Orange

Cool - Blue or Green

Artists can create different moods or emotions using different colours:

Red / Orange - heat, danger, anger

Blue / Green - calm, peace, cold

You can practice your colour mixing on paper - print out the flying goose sheet or work in a sketchbook. You can write 'yes' next to the colours which you like.