



The Color Only You Can See — Lesson Plan

Grade: Pre-K–2 | Duration: 40–50 minutes | CASEL Domain: Self-Awareness

Objective: Students will explore personal identity and uniqueness through the metaphor of a color that only they can see, understanding that what makes them special is inherent and shows up when they're being themselves.

Essential Question: *"What is the color only YOU can see — and what happens when you let it out?"*

Materials: The personalized story, Watercolors or tempera paints, Large paper, Jars or cups (for the "catching color" activity)

Vocabulary: Unique, Shimmer, Gray, Invisible, Special, Identity, Signature, Inherent, Splatter, Discover

ANTICIPATORY SET (5 MIN)

Hold up a box of crayons. "How many colors are in here?" (Count.) "Now — how many colors do you think exist in the WHOLE WORLD?" (Infinite.) "Today we're meeting someone who found a color that isn't in ANY crayon box."

DIRECT INSTRUCTION (15 MIN)

Read aloud. Pause at the gray world — ask what it would feel like. Pause at the jar spill — laugh together. Pause at the revelation: the color comes from inside. Emphasize: you can't catch it, copy it, or lose it. It IS you.

GUIDED PRACTICE (10 MIN)

Jar Experiment as a class. Discuss: why can't you take the color back out? What does that tell us about sharing our true selves?

INDEPENDENT PRACTICE (10 MIN)

Splatter-paint your color. Write: "My color is _____ and it glows brightest when I _____."

CLOSURE (5 MIN)

Gallery walk of splatter paintings. Each child says one sentence about their color. Finish: "Our classroom is a painting made of ALL our colors."

ASSESSMENT

Can children articulate what makes them unique? Can they connect the metaphor to real life? Exit ticket: "My color shows up when I _____."

DIFFERENTIATION

Support: Offer a limited paint palette to reduce overwhelm. Provide sentence starters for reflection.

Extend: Write a poem titled "The Color Only I Can See." Create a class book of everyone's color descriptions.

HOME CONNECTION

Send home the splatter painting. Ask families to discuss: "When do you see your child's color shining brightest?"