



A20



15-20 minutes

A LOVELY, SUNNY DAY



To introduce substitution – the act of representing real objects and events by painting
To introduce abstract artistic composition
To use colours as symbols for expressing emotions



- ❖ 2 A4 sheets of white paper
- ❖ An A3 sheet of white paper
- ❖ An A4 sheet of brown paper
- ❖ Medium blue, bright yellow, dark brown, dark green and light green paint
- ❖ A selection of medium and thick paintbrushes
- ❖ A palette/mixing tray and water
- ❖ An easel (optional)



Have a sheet of white A4 paper, a paintbrush, water and blue and yellow paint ready, and then tell this story:

Once there was an artist who had run out of nearly all her different coloured paints. She had only two colours left, some blue paint and some yellow paint. It was a bright and beautiful sunny day – the sun was shining and so the grass looked a magnificent green colour. Never had she seen so lovely a day. It made her feel very happy! How she longed to paint it – but she only had two colours! She thought for a long time about what she could do to paint the lovely, sunny day with its blue sky, warm, yellow sun and green, green grass. Then, suddenly, she had a brilliant idea. She painted some yellow for the sun (paint a yellow patch as in the picture above in front of your child), some blue for the sky (paint a blue patch), and there, on her picture, she mixed some blue and yellow paint together (mix the colours together on the sheet using the ‘washing out’ technique to make a green patch) and she had a lovely green for the green, green grass.

Ask your child how they think the lovely, sunny day made the artist feel (happy) and how they think she felt about her picture (happy, proud, pleased).

Tell your child that they are going to paint the lovely, sunny day using blue and yellow paint. On the other sheet of A4 paper, model the technique of ‘washing out’ more slowly, commenting on your actions as you do this: *First I make a blue patch like this, then I make a yellow one, and finally I use my brush to mix a little of one patch of paint with the other. See, I have some of my blue patch left here, and some of my yellow patch left there, but in between I have a mixture of the two colours and that mixture is green! See how you can make green by mixing blue and yellow paint. Now you have ‘magic paint’ and can paint a picture of the lovely day just as the artist did!*

Ask your child to paint a picture of a lovely, sunny day, with the yellow sun, the blue sky and the green grass on the A3 white paper. Support them with mixing the colours in their palette, and in choosing a title for their work.



If you have an A-frame or easel, and a suitable palette for mixing colours, you could make a point of explaining and showing your child how a real artist works (if you haven't already in a previous session).



Give your child the sheet of brown paper. Ask them to paint leaves on a tree. Help them, using dark brown paint, to make the trunk first. Then show them how they can add dark green and light green spots as the leaves and let them continue. Here are some examples of how it could be done.



Your child understands that the lovely, sunny day made the artist feel happy.
Your child can use yellow, blue and green to represent a lovely, sunny day.
Your child can paint light and dark green leaves on a tree.



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