

# Ask Me About Light and Color!

Today, an instructor from the Discovery Museum in Acton visited my classroom and led a program about light and color.

Ask me about the beautiful rainbow we made when we shone white light through a prism or the new colors we created by spinning our color mixing tops.

Let me show you the results of my chromatography experiment. I used a coffee filter and water to separate the different colors of ink in a black marker.

Let's explore light and color further by following the activity below!



## Light Colors Our World

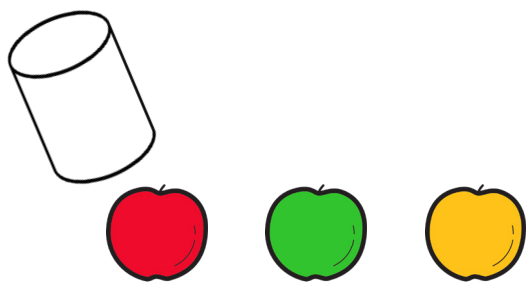
Where do all the colors of the world come from? They come from white light. Without light there would be no color. Try this activity at night in a dark room.

### What you need:

- a red, green, and yellow apple or pepper in a paper bag
- three sheets of white paper (roughly 8.5 inches x 11 inches)
- tape
- a flashlight
- a dark room

### What you do:

1. Take the bag of apples or peppers into a dark room without any light. Using your sense of touch, pull the peppers out of the bag one by one and try to identify the color of each. What do you notice? Look around your room. Now turn on the lights. How do the colors of objects in the room differ when the room is dark compared to when it is light?
2. Roll three pieces of white paper and use tape to make three tubes that will slide over each pepper.
3. Slide the tubes over the apples or peppers and turn off the lights.
4. Shine a flashlight into each tube. What do you notice?



The color you see on the walls of the tube is the color of light that is reflected by the pepper. The colors you don't see reflected are the colors or wavelengths of light that are absorbed by the pepper. Try this with other objects in the room.