

The Colors of Us

by Karen Katz



ACTIVITY: FINGERPRINT RAINBOW!



SUPPLIES:

- Finger paints
- Paper



DIRECTIONS:

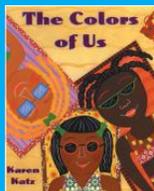
1. Use one color of finger paint and dab your finger in it and put dots on a piece of paper to resemble one color of the rainbow.
2. Wash your hand. Use a different color of finger paint to do the same to create another color of the rainbow.
3. Continue until your rainbow is finished.
4. Mix colors to create an interesting rainbow.



Take a photo of your completed artwork and send it along with your name to: connect@gradelevelreadingsuncoast.net

HEALTHY FEELINGS AND RELATIONSHIPS FOR PreK-K

Children's social and emotional development, like their physical development, is a key component of overall health and well-being.



THE COLORS OF US

Written and illustrated by Karen Katz

A young girl admires all of the different and unique skin tones of the people in her neighborhood, from cinnamon and peanut butter, to chocolate and amber.

SEL Competency:

SOCIAL AWARENESS

The ability to take the perspective of and empathize with others from diverse backgrounds and cultures, to understand social and ethical norms for behavior, and to recognize family, school, and community resources and supports.



CONVERSATION STARTERS

- 1 Brainstorm ways in which people are similar to and different from one another. Explain that we can see some of the ways in which we are different, and not others. For each difference and similarity that the group comes up with, identify whether it can be seen or not.
- 2 After creating your list of similarities and differences, ask how the ways in which we are different may affect our actions. Do our differences sometimes influence our feelings? The way we express our feelings? The way we expect other people to act?
- 3 In the book, Lena observes that the people in her community have very different skin colors, and she sees the beauty in each one. What words describe your skin tone? What words describe the skin of others in your family? As the educator, you may want to model answering this question by first sharing about yourself.
- 4 What are some good things about knowing lots of people who look differently from one another or who are different in other ways? Who are some of the people you know that are different from you? What are some of the fun things you've done together or things that you have learned from them?

TRY THIS

Hands On!

Have students trace their hands on a piece of paper and write their names on the palm. On each of the four fingers and thumb, have students complete prompts about themselves, such as: My name is; My favorite food is; In my free time I like to; The music I like best is; At home I live with; etc. Use this activity as a way to introduce the concept of diversity, and together come up with a group definition of what diversity means.

You See, I See

Ask all of the children to draw something familiar, such as a cat or a dog. After drawing, have the children share what they have drawn as a group. How do their drawings look different? Comment on specific differences such as color, size, shape, etc. and ask the children why they think they all drew the same thing in different ways. Use this example to have a conversation about how our different life experiences can influence our beliefs, feelings, and behaviors.