

# Reading Colors Your World!

## iLeer da Color a Tu Mundo!

2021 Summer Reading Program

July 31 – August 6

### WEEK 8: TRAVELING WATER EXPERIMENT

Test your science skills this week! Kids and adults alike will be impressed with this color-mixing activity.

#### Supplies:

- 7 clear plastic cups or glasses
- Paper towels (if you don't have half sheets, cut the full-size towel in half)
- Red, yellow, and blue food coloring
- Water

#### Instructions:

1. Place 7 cups in a row and pour water in the 1st, 3rd, 5th, and 7th cup. Approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  full works well.
2. Add 5 drops of red food coloring to the 1st and the 7th cup.
3. Add 5 drops of yellow food coloring to the 3rd cup.
4. Add 5 drops of blue food coloring to the 5th cup.
5. Take a half sheet of paper towel and fold it in half lengthwise and in half again lengthwise.
6. Depending on the size of your cups, trim the ends of the paper towels so there isn't too much excess paper towel that will stick up in the air between cups.
7. Fold the paper towel in half widthwise and place one end in the 1st cup and one end in the 2nd cup. Do the same with another paper towel and place it in the 2nd and 3rd cups. This continue until all 7 cups are connected by paper towels.
8. You should be able to see the colored water traveling up the paper towel as it absorbs.
9. Over the course of the next few hours or days (depending on your paper towels), you should see the water travel from the full cups to the empty cups where it will mix with another color.

#### How it works:

The water moves up the paper towel through a process called capillary action. This is the same process that helps water climb from a tree's roots to the leaves at the top.



