

Flower Colors: Parent Instructions

This hands-on activity is another chance for your child to practice the steps of scientific inquiry: 1) observe, 2) hypothesize, 3) experiment, 4) conclude.

Materials:

a few white flowers- carnations work well
your favorite color of food coloring
a vase, jar, or glass of water

Step 1: Observe

Go outside or to a plant nursery. What colors are the flowers? How many different colors can you find? Have your child write these observations in the experiment log.

Step 2: Hypothesize

Explain the experiment to your child and read the Kid's Instructions page together. Ask your child what he or she thinks will happen to the flowers. Have your child write down his or her answer in the experiment log.

Step 3: Experiment

1. Add 5-10 drops of food coloring to the water. Add more for a darker color, less for a lighter color.
2. Cut the flower stems at an angle.
3. Place the flowers in the water.
4. Leave the flowers overnight.
5. Look at the flowers. What happened?

Step 4: Conclude

After your child completes the experiment, ask him or her to describe what happened.

Flower Colors: Kid's Instructions

Step 1: Observe

Go outside or to a plant nursery. What colors are the flowers? How many different colors can you find? Write what you see and think in your experiment log.

Step 2: Hypothesize

Read the instructions in step 3 with a parent. What do you think will happen to the flowers? Write your prediction in your experiment log.

Step 3: Experiment

1. Add 5-10 drops of food coloring to the water. Add more for a darker color, less for a lighter color.
2. Cut the flower stems.
3. Place the flowers in the water.
4. Leave the flowers overnight.
5. Look at the flowers. What happened?

Step 4: Conclude

Was your prediction right? Write your answer in your experiment log.

Just For Fun

Flower Colors Log Sheet

1) What I Observed:

2) My Prediction:

3) What Happened?

4) My Conclusion: