

## USING SKILL

## Using a range of colours in a painting

## Time

45 min

## Resources

Newspaper to cover tables

Per pair of children:

Powder paint or ready-mixed colours:

- crimson + brilliant blue
- cyan + lemon yellow
- brilliant yellow + vermilion
- black

1 water pot

1 palette

For each child:

1 medium long-handled brush

1 fine short-handled brush

A4 cartridge paper with a 2cm border and middle shelf drawn.

A pencil

Test paper

## National Curriculum

2a, 4a



Work of five Year 4 pupils, paintings mounted one above the other

## Note

This should give children good opportunities to mix and paint with a full range of colours. Here the subject was a bookcase to link in with the Book Week in school. Possible subjects could be: a carnival, flower beds, party costumes, fabrics, etc.

## Introduction

*You are going to do a painting and try to use a good range of different colours that you have mixed yourself. Don't use any pure unmixed colours straight from the pot/bottle. You could look back in your sketchbooks to see how you made different colours and see if you can re-mix them.*

## Practical activity

- \* Ask the children to look at a bookcase in the classroom or the library, noting how the books are different colours and different sizes.
- \* They could lightly sketch out rectangular book spines of different heights and thicknesses arranged along the shelf.

- \* Draw their attention to the way some books are leaning at an angle and some have spaces between them.
- \* Next tell the children to try to paint a shelf of books, painting the spine of each book a different colour.
- \* When the paintings are dry, children could paint titles, or squiggles to represent titles, and small images along the spines, in different colours. They could look at books in the classroom to get some ideas.
- \* Draw their attention to the fact that the writing down the spine is often in a different colour. Encourage them to do the same.
- \* Lastly, they should mix the darkest colour they can and paint the shadows behind the books, or they could use black.
- \* If the paintings are displayed one above the other they give the impression of a bookcase and make a colourful display.