Science Saturday @ Home
Color Mixing Tube
Homemade Kaleidoscopes

Gathering Supplies:
- Short Cardboard Tube
- Plastic Wrap / Clear Plastic
- Markers - Red, Yellow & Blue
- Aluminum Foil
- Tape
- Rubber Band

How To Steps:

1. Take a piece of plastic wrap, about 1 by 4 inches, and tape the corners down to a table. This just holds the plastic in place making it easier to color.

2. You can use any type of markers you have. Keep to the primary colors of red, yellow and blue. Permanent markers will give you brighter colors on the plastic. Use the three colors to draw different shapes onto the plastic. Fill it up, but don’t overlap the shapes!

3. Take the tape off of the plastic. Then fold the plastic in half, length ways. Hold the plastic up to a light to see what secondary colors (orange, green, purple) you can see. Then fold it in half again, so the plastic is half as long. What colors can you see now?

4. Take a piece of aluminum foil that is about an inch wider than your tube. Roll the foil, shiny side inwards. Slide it into the tube so that the foil sticks out a little on either side. Cut little slits in the foil to make it easy to fold the foil to the outside of the tube and tape in place.

5. Look through one end of the tube while holding the plastic strip on the other end. Point it towards a light. What colors can you see? If you find a section of colors that you really like, take a rubber band and use it to wrap the plastic on the end of the tube, and hold it in place.

6. Color the outside of the tube to decorate your kaleidoscope.
Did You Know?

When an artist is mixing paint colors there are three primary colors that they use to make all of the other colors.

These colors are red, yellow and blue. When you mix red and yellow you get a secondary color of orange. Yellow and blue paint will make the secondary color of green and red and blue will make violet. Mixing the primary colors with each other in different amount forms the color wheel. Changing the amount of any of the primary colors you are mixing will produce a change in the final color of the paint.

Try making your own color wheel with paint and see how colorful the world is!