C is for COLOR

Designed for children ages 3 – 8 and created by the educational team of FirefliesBlog.com
Dear Fireflies Parents & Teachers,

- We believe in childhood play.
- We believe that, as parents, we must be proactive when it comes to creating experiences that inspire creativity and spark the imagination.
- We believe in intentionally creating (ie putting it on the calendar) family memory-making events.

It is our hope that the following pages of ideas will be the spark that motivates you to create an "evening of the arts" in your home to celebrate your family; your children. Fireflies Presents is designed to take place in your family room, centered around a puppet theater, and with the smell of fresh popcorn coming from the large bowl on the coffee table.

**Fireflies Presents** is designed for one or more children between the ages of 3 – 8, the younger the child(ren) the more parent involvement is needed in the area of "performance" — but either way, very little preparation or practice is required. Non-readers can take center stage as easily as young readers. We kept it simple…promise!

**What is a Fireflies Presents Family Night?**

It is a night where the children in your home put on their own show. **Fireflies Presents** celebrates the imagination and creativity of what it means to be a child.

It begins with a theme and a ticket.

This month our FirefliesBlog.com theme is color: **“C is for COLOR”**

1. Select an evening and pass out tickets inviting family members to gather in your home. If you have extended family living nearby, be sure to invite them as well. Make sure everyone knows that they will need their ticket the evening of the show! (See #2!)

**On the evening of your Fireflies Presents…**

2. Ask a child to collect tickets before the audience takes their seats. Watch that child’s face light up as they realize they are a part of something very special; something that requires a real ticket!
3. Give every person attending is given a sing-a-long handout & popcorn cone. (Keep a large bowl filled with popcorn nearby, so that guests may refill as needed.)
4. Line up chairs in front of a doorway that holds the **Fireflies Presents** puppet theater. (*see note below)
5. SHOWTIME! **Fireflies Presents… “C is for COLOR”**
   - Remember, we have given you several options for the evening. Choose the number of program elements based on how many children are participating and their ages.
6. Celebrate the evening with an after show party!

Even though we have designed our unique puppet theater (available for purchase) for Fireflies Presents, you can just as easily throw a tablecloth or curtain across a curtain rod suspended in a doorframe.

Thank you for joining us on this journey to create lifelong family memories and develop communication skills, all while experiencing the best in children’s literature.

Deepest Blessings,
Deni Corbett
DeniCorbett@FirefliesBlog.com
Fireflies Presents Program Elements

Pick and choose from the following activities and/or add your own elements, to make your family evening uniquely yours. Be sensitive to the ages of your child(ren), their attentions span, and abilities. We suggest that each show last no more than 10 minutes depending of the ages of the participants. Use the following as suggestions & select accordingly to create an evening of joy, laughter and family memories – in other words...a family legacy moment.

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Opening and Closing

Begin each show with a welcome by one of the children. After the show is over a simple, “Thank you for coming to our show” works, after the children take their bows of course!
Recite a POEM!
Older child (or adult) reads while the younger child listens for the word cues and presents the puppets.

“Five Little Paints”

Five little paints created a scene
Red, Yellow, Blue, Pink and Green

“I’ll start,” Said Yellow, “by painting the sun way up high!”
Blue said, “Next I can fill in a beautiful sky!”
“Great,” Said Green, “I’ll create some trees!”
“Look,” Said Red, “I can paint apples in the leaves!”

“Oh”, Sighed Pink, “but what am I to do?
This painting doesn’t need a pig, a princess, or a tutu.”
“I know! I think I’ll paint a huge pink dinosaur!”
“My color really should be used for a whole lot more!”

It looked great -- all the other colors had to agree
And they started to imagine what else they could be.

Family Sing-a-Long
Handout for the two sing-a-Longs may be found at the end of this packet.

Colors, Oh So Great!
(sung to “Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star”)
Red and yellow, green and blue
Orange, purple, brown and black too.
How many pictures can you make?
Using colors, oh so great!
Red and yellow, green and blue
Orange, purple, brown and black too.
Bible Truths & Sign Language  
Have child(ren) memorize or read.

Mark 16:15  
“Go into all the world* and preach the gospel*.”

*Sign language: Have children sign the name WORLD & GOSPEL.

World:  
To do the sign for "world", if you are right handed, hold your right "W" hand (middle three fingers spread out -- think boy scout pledge) with fingers spread out on top of your left "W" hand. Move both hands simultaneously. The movement is a circular motion: forward, down, back, up. While the right hand is moving forward, the left hand is moving backward. When the right hand is moving upward, the left hand is moving downward.

Preach:  
Move your "F" hand forward twice. Memory aid: Think of holding a seed in your hand and trying to plant that seed into someone’s mind

“Brown as a Bear”  
The narrator recites this poem while younger children work the puppets. Or have an older child read or recite the poem.

BROWN as a bear  
YELLOW as a duck  
BLACK as a bug  
RED as a fire truck  

ORANGE as a pumpkin  
GREEN as a tree  
PURPLE as a grape  
BLUE as the sea
Family Sing-a-Long

Handout for the two sing-a-ongs may be found at the end of this packet of info.

Color Mixing
(sung to “The Wheels on the Bus”)

Colors can be changed if you mix, mix, mix
Mix, mix, mix
Mix, mix, mix
Colors can be changed if you mix, mix, mix
What can you create?

If you mix together yellow and blue
Yellow and blue
Yellow and blue
If you mix together yellow and blue
What can you create?

(shout) GREEN!

If you mix together red and blue
Red and blue
Red and blue
If you mix together red and blue
What can you create?

(shout) PURPLE

If you mix together yellow and red
Yellow and red
Yellow and red
If you mix together yellow and red
What can you create?

(shout) ORANGE

If I can mix colors, you can too
You can too
You can too
If I can mix colors, you can too
What will you create?
**Family Read-Aloud Time**

Choose a family favorite book or story to read aloud. This would be a great role for a parent, grandparent or favorite uncle or neighbor. Remember to include as many family members as possible in your program. The following are our picks for *Fireflies Presents Family Read-Aloud Time*.

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**The Day the Crayons Quit**  
by Drew Daywalt

Kids will be imagining their own humorous conversations with crayons and coloring a blue streak after sharing laughs with Drew Daywalt and *New York Times* bestseller Oliver Jeffers.

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**The Noisy Paint Box**  
by Barb Rosenstock

In this exuberant celebration of creativity, Barb Rosenstock and Mary GrandPré tell the fascinating story of Vasily Kandinsky, one of the very first painters of abstract art. Throughout his life, Kandinsky experienced colors as sounds, and sounds as colors—and bold, groundbreaking works burst forth from his noisy paint box.
“C is for COLOR” Recipes & Crafts
Have the children help you create adorable, edible “crayons” posted on FirefliesBlog.com. This sweet treat is sure to be a hit with your little one! [Fireflies Blog Post Date: January 21, 2015.]

Create Kandinsky inspired art with your child and display the result as the “visual arts” component of your Fireflies Presents Evening. If special guests are invited to your show, consider having the children make one to give away as a gift. [Fireflies Blog Post Date: January 21, 2015.]

After Show Celebration
After the show, set up a time for autographs. (Be sure to have crayons ready.) Create your color themed snack and your night is complete!

Next month? “V is for Valentine”
to go along with
My Heart is Like a Zoo by Michael Hall
How to make the puppets you will need for Fireflies Presents.

1. Print out puppets on card stock

2. Fold in half (Puppets are designed to be the same on the front back so children don’t need to worry about the positioning of their puppets.)

3. Cut off 2 – 3 inches from the bottom if needed – some puppets may fill the whole page.

4. Hot glue gun a 12” wooden dowel or paint stirrer. The dowels come precut in packages and the paint stirrers are free at Walmart, Lowes etc. if you ask nicely.

5. Fold puppet over dowel.

6. Ready for SHOWTIME!
"C is for COLOR"
Family Sing-a-Longs

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(sung to "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star")

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Yellow and blue
If you mix together yellow and blue
What can you create?
(shout) GREEN!

If you mix together red and blue
Red and blue
If you mix together red and blue
What can you create?

(shout) PURPLE

If you mix together yellow and red
Yellow and red
If you mix together yellow and red
What can you create?

(shout) ORANGE

If I can mix colors, you can too
You can too
If I can mix colors, you can too
What will you create?
Instructions

1. Cut a circle out of a piece of any kind of paper.

2. Cut a triangle by making two cuts to the center of the circle as shown. The triangle should be one quarter of the circle.

3. Fold the circle, overlapping the edges a little, and tape together! You now have your cone! Have fun with it!
Admission Ticket