



# Nature Tots

*At Home*

Colours in  
Nature

*Storytime suggestion*

'Wow Said the Owl' By Tim Hopgood.

If you don't have the book , listen to it read aloud [here](#) under the 'Colours in Nature' section.

*Discover colours with a colour wheel*

Many nature based colour activities encourage picking flowers and natural materials when exploring outdoors. However flowers provide really important food for insects such as bees and butterflies, especially early in the spring so its best not to pick them.

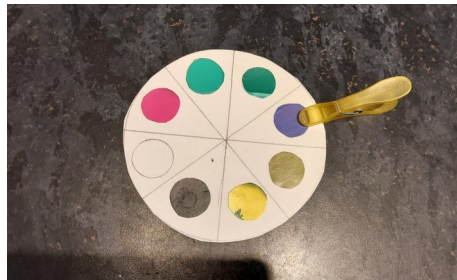
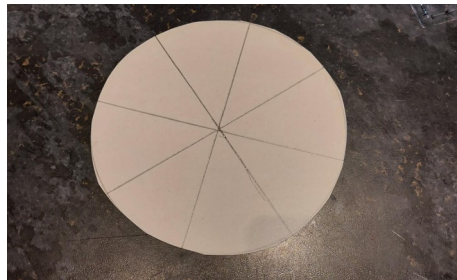
Instead, try making our colour wheel to match and find colours in nature:

1. Find an old cereal box from your recycling, and open it up to reveal the plain inside.
2. Ask your Tot to use a pencil to draw around a small plate or bowl and then cut out the circle.
3. Next, use a ruler and pencil to divide the circle into 8 sections, you could practice counting to 8 as you do this.
4. Now, hunt in the recycling for other pieces of card or paper that have colours on them. You could use this time to practice naming colours and discuss how different shades of the same colour are different.
5. Use a coin to draw around to make smaller circles and then cut out these out.



6. Glue one coloured circle into each section of the disc.
7. Finally grab 8 pegs then go out and hunt for colours that match those on your disc. Each time you make a match clip a peg onto that colour.

If you'd like to keep a record of what you find you could take a photo of each item you match. The photos could then be printed out and used to make colour collages as a memento.



## Colour mixing

Do this activity over 2 days. On the first day make some ice cubes. As you put the water into the ice cube trays add a few drops of food colouring. Make 3 cubes red, 3 blue and 3 yellow.

On the second day pop out your coloured cubes and place them into small bowls or cups. Use these combinations:

1. Red , yellow and blue
2. Red and blue
3. Blue and yellow
4. Red and yellow





Now set the bowls out to allow the ice to melt. You can do this outside, if it is sunny the ice will melt faster.

Whilst you wait, try and guess what colours the ice cubes will make when they melt. Write down your guesses on paper and place next to each bowl. You may need to gently shake the bowls to get the colours to mix better. How did you do with your guesses?

## *Nature colouring*

Some of the colours you find in nature can be used for colouring! Experiment with leaves you find outdoors to see if you can use them to colour in the picture below. Try picking a dandelion leaf, folding it in the middle then rubbing it over the paper. Does the green come off? You could also try rubbing the paper against a dandelion flower to transfer some of the yellow colour over.

