



# Challenge: Blooms of Colour

Flowers come in all sorts of shapes, sizes, and colours, but here's a challenge that will get you thinking about how we can change a flower's colour. Find more details here:

<https://artfulparent.com/painted-daisies-another-artful-science-experiment/>

Have a think about how you could do this – maybe you could paint the petals (but they'd probably end up in a yucky mess!) Can you think of a way to help the flower change its own colour? Here's a hint: think about how a flower drinks water... Got your problem-solving skills at the ready? Let's go...

## You will need:

- White flowers
- Watercolour paint or food colouring
- Water
- Small jars or glasses

**Step 1:** Ask an adult to help you find a white flower (you might be able to find a daisy or another white flower growing wild). Make sure you don't pick a flower without permission. You could even buy some white flowers from a shop. One flower will be OK but the more flowers, the more fun you can have!

**Step 2:** Put each flower in a separate glass or vase with a small amount of water.

**Step 3:** In each jar or vase, add a different colour watercolour paint or food colouring. You'll need to add quite a lot of paint or food colouring to make this work.

**Step 4:** Now sit back, watch, and wait...estimate how long you think it will take before the flower starts to change colour? An hour? 3 hours? A full day? A few days? Why not take some photos every 30 mins to compare?

**Step 5:** Enjoy seeing the flowers change colour. They're doing this as they drink the water – they're taking in the paint or food colouring too which is changing their petal colours.

**Step 6:** Why not have a go at repeating the experiment? Why not try mixing colours and see if you can make a rainbow of flowers? Talk to an adult about what you expect will happen. Ask an adult to help you to carefully split the flower's stem into two. Put one half of the stem in one colour and the other in another colour. What do you think will happen?



## Which skills will I be developing?

### Main



### Additional



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