Kelli Rutherford  
Mixing Primary Colors – Painting a Pumpkin  
Grade Level – Pre-K  

Objective:  
- To paint with secondary colors as children explore using and mixing red with blue, blue with yellow, and red with yellow  
- To make and paint green grass, an orange pumpkin, and spell “pumpkin” with the color purple  

Goal:  
- to help students learn that primary colors of red, blue and yellow make secondary colors.  

Materials:  
- Clean, piece of paper for each student  
- Paper Plates  
- Acrylic paints: red, blue, and yellow  
- Paintbrushes  
- Paper towels  
- Cup of water for each student to clean brushes  

Background Information: The kids really enjoyed this lesson. Before I mixed the colors, I had the kids guess what color each combination of colors was going to make. This made the kids feel like they were playing a game. The week before, Mrs. Voss had been teaching about Fall and the letter of the week was “Pp.” This lesson was a great way to incorporate both Fall and the letter “P” while painting a pumpkin.  

Preparation: All you really need to do for this lesson is gather the materials. I found it easier to go ahead and paint my own pumpkin and grass and write “Pumpkin” so the kids could see what the end product should resemble.  

Safety Issues: It is important to make sure the kids only use the paint on the paper. Make sure the kids wash their hands after the lesson in case they have paint on them.  

Time required: 20 minutes  

Activity Outline/Teacher Procedures: Put a 2-3 inch circle of red and a 2-3 inch circle of blue paint on a paper plate. Mix the paints. (Blue and yellow – grass; red and yellow – pumpkin; red and blue – spell “pumpkin”) Next, have the kids paint their picture. The kids may need help painting the word “pumpkin.”