

Let's Mix Skin Tones and Paint a Self Portrait!

You will need:

a palette or plastic plate
a water container
watercolor or tempera paint
a paintbrush
watercolor paper
paper towels

1. Put some water on all your paints to soften.
2. Place a small puddle of water on your palette.
3. Mix a little brown paint into the puddle of water.
4. Rinse your brush.
5. Add a little red paint into the same puddle.
6. Try it on your paper. If it is too dark, add more water.
If it is too light, add more paint.
7. What happens when you add more red? More brown?
8. See how many shades of that color you can make.
9. Continue to do this experiment, starting with brown and adding a different color in your paint set. Try every color.
10. Which color looks like your skin tone? Test it on your hand. If the color blends in, it is a perfect match!

Tips:

If your paint is too dry it will not be easy to cover your paper.
Try adding water.

If you forget to rinse your brush and get paint in the wrong color, rinse your brush with water, then use it to clean up the paint. Rinse and repeat.

To keep your paints from running into each other, let one color dry before painting the next color.

Don't worry about being perfect! Have fun experimenting and see what you learn!