

What does blue mean to you?

Color has the power to stir emotions and call forth memories

Summary:

Discover people's thoughts and feelings about the color blue. Discuss and investigate your own ideas about the color blue.

Guiding Questions:

How do you feel when you look at the color blue?

What does the color blue remind you of?

Why do you think others might like the color blue?

Experience Goals:

- Think and talk about the memories and feelings a color creates.
- Discover what Field Museum guests said about the color blue.

Supplies:

- "What does Blue mean to You?" guest responses (page 3)
- Optional: People with whom to share great ideas and thoughts

Steps:

1. Talk about it

- a. Talk with family or friends about colors. What is everyone's favorite color? Why?
- b. Discuss the color blue. What is the first image that pops into each person's mind?
- c. Use the Guiding Questions (above) to figure out what blue means to each person.

2. Guess what our museum visitors said

- a. Try to guess what our Field Museum visitors said blue means to them. What were the top responses? Hint: We did not count "A color" or "My favorite color".
- b. Optional: Play game show-style. Use 2 teams or go around the room. Each team or person guesses a response. If correct, they get to keep going until they miss!
- c. Reveal the answers. Do any of them surprise you? Were they the same as yours?

3. Make a Blue Collection

- a. Organize your blue objects however you would like! By size? Shade of blue? Importance to you?
- b. Share your collection with family or friends!

What does BLUE mean to you? Top Ten Guest Responses at the Field Museum

10. Life (28 responses)
9. Fictional Characters (35 responses)
8. Happiness/Love (49 responses)
7. Food or Drink (51 responses)
6. Animals/Birds (68 responses)
5. Calmness/Peace (102 responses)
4. (tie) Sadness/Depression (127 responses)
3. (tie) Ocean- specifically (127 responses)
2. Sky (135 responses)

And the top response was...

1. Water! (154 responses)

Extensions:

- Make a collage of what blue means to you. Find and cut out pictures of animals, people, places, feelings and anything else that blue reminds you of, and tape or glue them to a sturdy piece of construction paper. Add your name...in blue, of course!
- Play 'I Spy' or '20 Questions', but limited only to things that are blue.
- Be a scientist! Conduct your own survey of your friends, neighbors, and family. Can't get outside? Talk to them over the phone or online. Find out what blue means to them (If they say "My favorite color" ask "Why?"). Total up the responses. Did you get the same results as we did? Feel free to share your response totals with us at: sciencehub@fieldmuseum.org