How'd You Make That Color?

Time:
- 5 minutes

Suggested Materials:
- Colored pencils, pastels, or other soft textured coloring tool
- Q-tips or cotton swabs
- Scrap paper
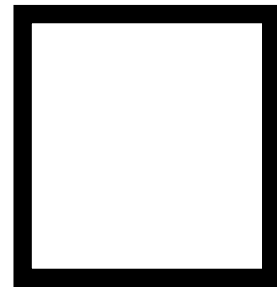- Color palette print out

Instructions:
1. Take one piece of scrap paper and one piece of cardstock.
2. Using three colors of your choosing, make your own unique color on the scrap paper. You will need to use your finger or the Q-tip to blend the colors.
3. Once happy with your color:
   a. copy it onto your palette with instructions underneath on how you made it.
   b. Give it a name!
   c. Don't forget to sign with your own name!
4. Hang up your final color for all to see

Extra Information:
- Pigments are used in art to create colors in things like paint.
- Primary light colors = Red, Green, Blue.
- We see colors because of the cones in our eyes.
  - Cones are one type of photoreceptor -- the tiny cells in the retina at the back of your eyes.
  - Most people have 3 different photoreceptors in the back of their eyes that perceive red, green, and blue.
- We see grass as green because it produces a pigment called chlorophyll.
  - Chlorophyll absorbs the other colors, so it reflects back the green light, which is the color we then see!
- Artists such as Charles Willson Peale would use pigments to control what colors of light are absorbed by the eye.

AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

1. Take a piece of scrap paper and a piece of cardstock.

Instructions to make color:

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2. Using three colors of your choosing, make your own unique color on your scrap paper. You will need to use your finger or a Q-tip to better blend the colors.

3. Once happy with your color: copy it on the cardstock square with instructions underneath on how you made your color. Don't forget to sign your name.
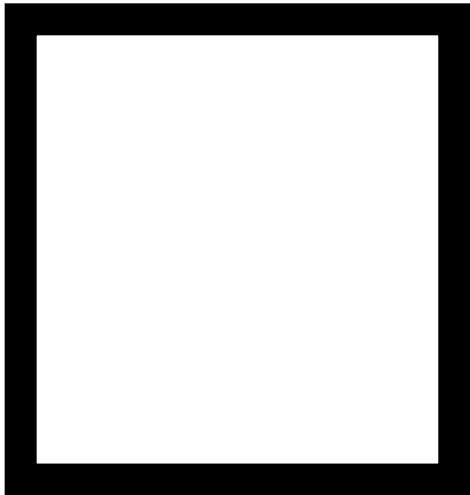
4. Display your final color for all to see!

Paint Palette
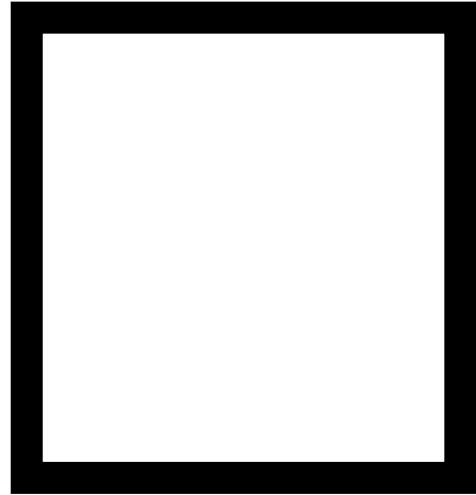Rembrandt Peale, 1833-1855
Oil paint and ink on paper
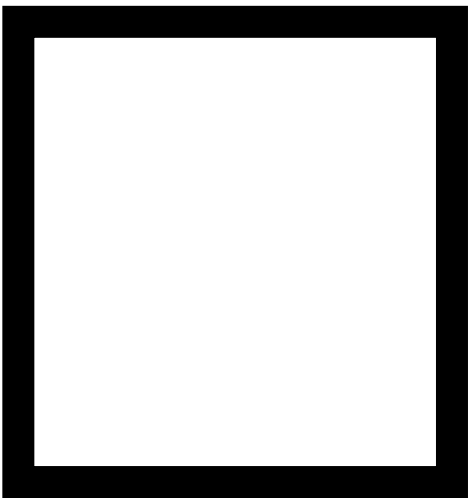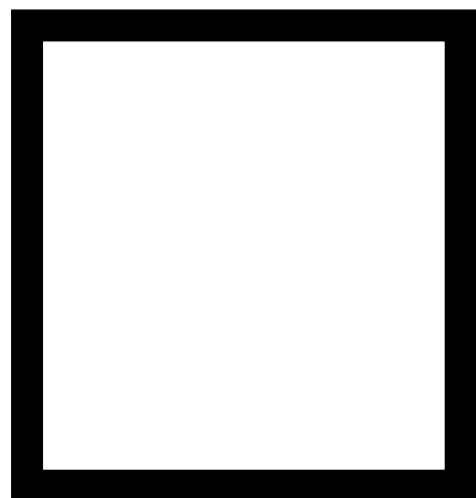APS. Peale-Sellers Family Collection

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