



SEEC

A LEARNING COMMUNITY

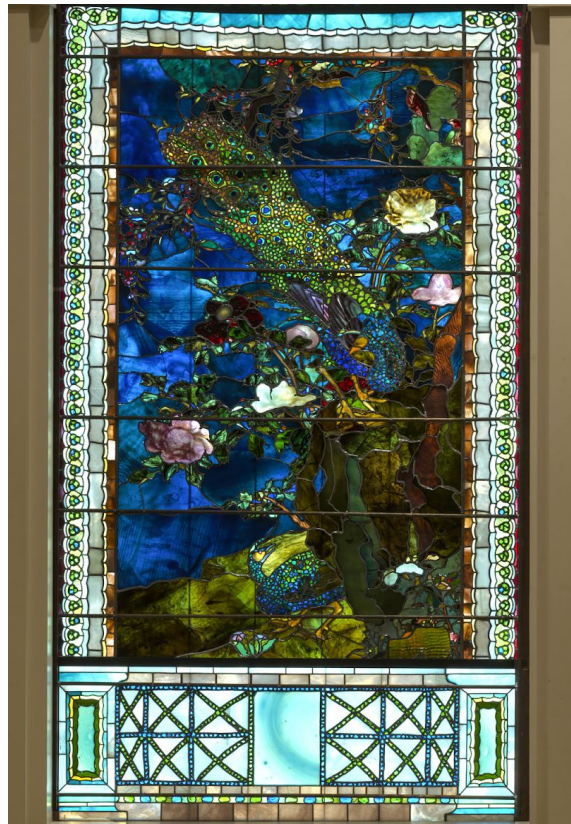
Smithsonian Early
Enrichment Center

Stained Glass

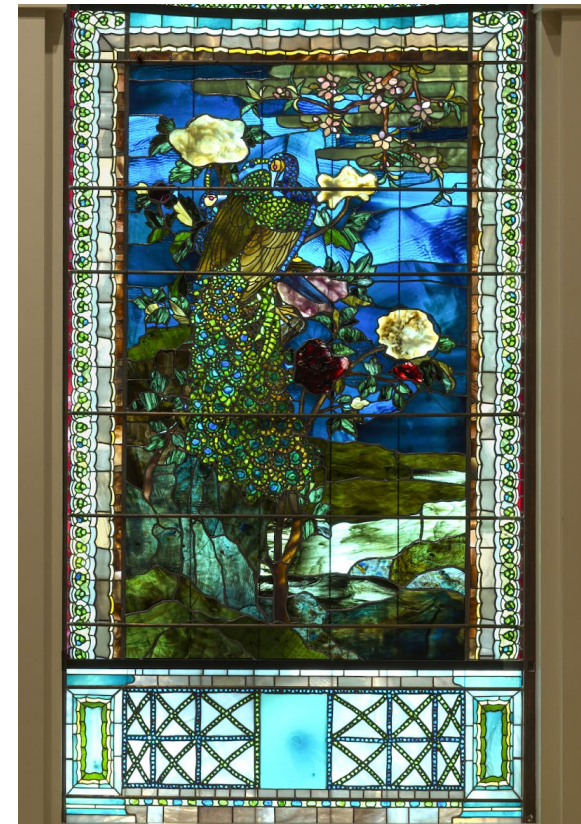
Topics to Explore:

- Light
- Colors
- Shapes
- Shadows
- Creative Process
- Cultural Diversity

Peacocks and Peonies I by John La Farge



Peacocks and Peonies II by John La Farge



Smithsonian American Art Museum Gift of Henry A. La Farge
<https://americanart.si.edu/artwork/peacocks-and-peonies-i-14198>



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Colors on a Lighttable

Make a Lighttable

Place string lights inside a clear plastic container. A larger container will provide more surface to work on.



Color Mixing

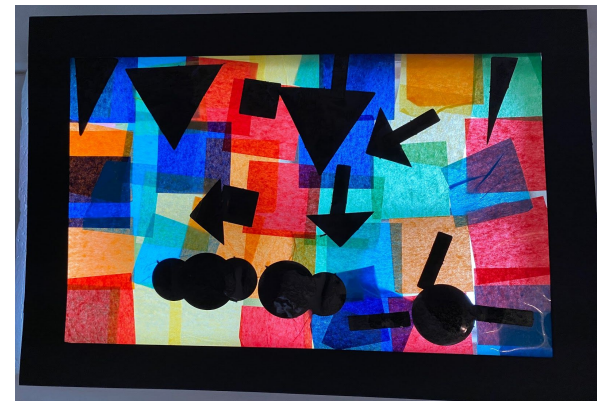
Put different color paint inside a ziplock bag. Seal the bag and place it on the lighttable to explore how colors change when mixed together.





Defining Shapes

Work with your child to determine which shapes they want to make in their art. Use tape to block out the shapes. Then use paint, chalk, or crayons to color in each shape a different color. If your child has a hard time keeping one color to each shape, you can cover up all the other sections with paper as they use each color. Alternatively, help your child cut dark shapes out of black paper to place on the stain glass colors.





Window Art

Hang your child's art up on a window and use the sun to explore another element of stained glass. Use different materials to compare and contrast how they look when the sun's light shines on them. Possible examples include tissue paper, playdough, paint/water beads in ziplock bags. Explore with transparent, colored, and opaque materials. Ask your child which material is most appropriate for stained glass.





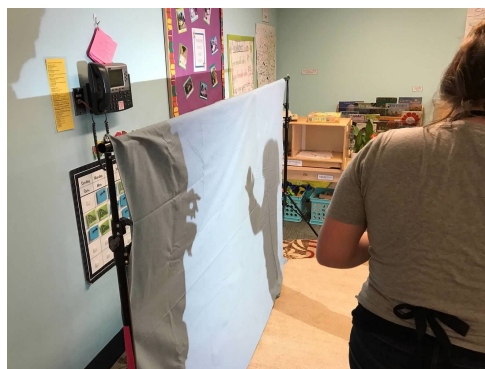
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Light, Colors, and Shadows

As your child creates, encourage them to name or repeat the colors that they are working with to help them with color recognition. Add the element of light to their artwork by using a flashlight, window, or spotlight. Experiment to figure out what your child likes best.

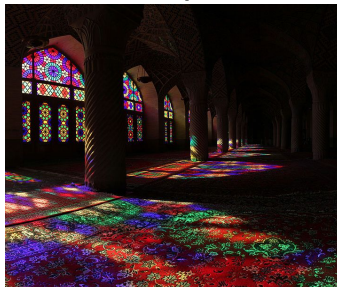




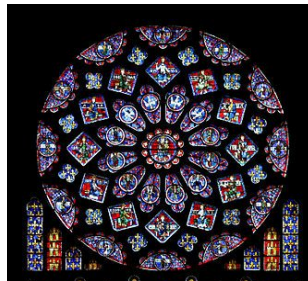
Importance of Stained Glass

Talk to your child about where you might see stained glass. Museums, synagogues, mosques, churches, temples, cathedrals are all places that might have stained glass (or might not). As you discuss, make connections and talk about similarities while celebrating differences. For example, some people put stained glass in places that are very important to them but the stained glass looks different. Maybe the stained glass represents different stories or different images. Follow your child's interest during this conversation and feel free to reach out to experts.

Nasir-ol-Molk Mosque in Shiraz, Iran



Chartres Cathedral, France



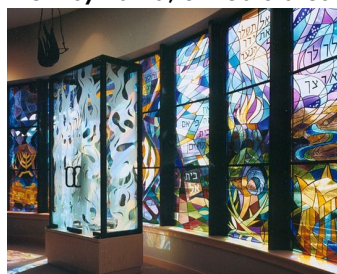
Reims Cathedral, France



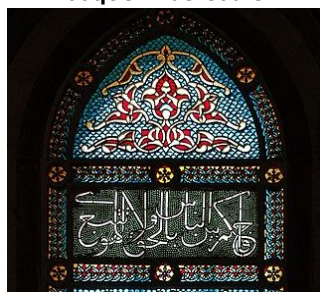
Mosque in Srinagar, Kashmir, India



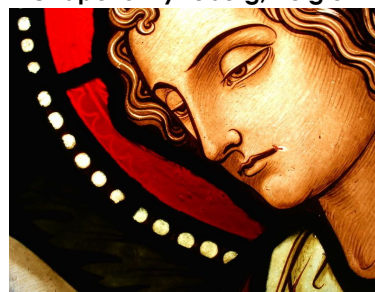
Temple Ohev Shalom, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, United States



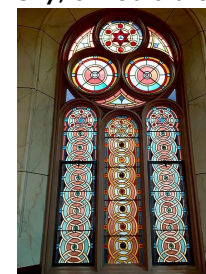
Mosque in Jerusalem



Chapel of Eyneburg, Belgium



Eldridge Street Synagogue New York City, United States



Images: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stained_glass#/media/File:Nasir-al_molk_-1.jpg, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stained_glass#/media/File:Nasir-al_molk_-1.jpg; https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Vitrail_du_19%C3%A8me_si%C3%A8cle_Reims_020208_03.jpg; https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Muslims_praying_in_mosque_in_Srinagar,_Kashmir.jpg; https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Temple_Ohev_Shalom_Stained_Glass,_Ascalon_Studios,_David_Ascalon.jpg; [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Stained_glass_window_in_a_mosque_in_the_Old_City_of_Jerusalem_\(12393551704\).jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Stained_glass_window_in_a_mosque_in_the_Old_City_of_Jerusalem_(12393551704).jpg); https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Eyneburg_7.jpg; https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:9_Pane_Stained_Glass_with_Arch_Eldridge_Street_Synagogue.jpg