

Sky Color Lesson Plan

YouTube recording: [Sky Color by Peter H. Reynolds : Read-Along](#)

Book: *Sky Color*

Author: Peter H. Reynolds

About This Book

Sky Color tells the story of Marisol, a girl who loves to paint. When she is asked to paint the sky for a mural, she realizes she doesn't have any blue paint. She discovers that the sky can be many colors, not just blue, and learns to see the world in new ways. The lesson: be creative and see things differently.

Before Reading (5 minutes)

1. Ask students to:

Sit "criss-cross"
Hands in lap
Eyes on you
Please raise hand to speak

2. Introduce yourself (your name, favorite childhood book).

3. Show the cover.

Say: "This story is called *Sky Color*. The author and illustrator is Peter H. Reynolds. He made both the words and the pictures."

Ask: "What colors do you usually see in the sky?"

"What color do you think Marisol will use to paint the sky?"

(Have students whisper to a partner. Count down from 5 to bring them back together.)

Vocabulary Routine (5 minutes total – do before reading)

General Directions for Each Word:

1. Say the word, students repeat.
2. Provide a concise definition.
3. Connect to the story - how it appears in *Sky Color*.
4. Give examples/non-examples.
5. Ask a yes/no or either/or check for understanding.

Words for This Story

1. Mural

- **Say:** Say the word: mural. (Students repeat.)
- **Definition:** A mural is a very big painting on a wall.
- **Connect:** Marisol and her class are painting a mural.
- **Example:** Is a tiny drawing in a notebook a mural? (No.) Is a painting on a big wall a mural? (Yes.)

2. Creative

- **Say:** Say the word: creative. (Students repeat.)
- **Definition:** Creative means using your imagination to make something new.
- **Connect:** Marisol had to be creative when she didn't have blue paint.
- **Example:** If you build a castle out of blocks, are you creative? (Yes.) If you just copy someone else's work, are you creative? (No.)

3. Shade

- **Say:** Say the word: shade. (Students repeat.)
- **Definition:** A shade is a lighter or darker form of a color.
- **Connect:** Marisol saw many shades of color in the sky.
- **Example:** Is dark green a shade of green? (Yes.) Is red a shade of green? (No.)

Read the Story (10 minutes)

- **Read** clearly with expression
- **Pause for three short questions:**
 1. When Marisol realizes there is no blue paint:
"What do you think she will do without blue paint?"
 2. When she notices the evening sky changing colors:
"What colors do you see in the sky? Do you think Marisol will use these?"
 3. At the end, when she finishes her mural:
"How did Marisol's sky look different from what you expected?"

After Reading (5 minutes)

Ask:

- What did Marisol learn about the sky?
- What does it mean to be creative?
- What lesson can we take from this story? (The sky can be many colors. We should look closely and use our imagination.)

Closing (2 minutes)

- **Say:** This story showed us how to see things differently and be creative. The sky isn't always just blue; it can be many shades and colors.