

# Johnny Drew's Ranging Hues

By: Lauren Price



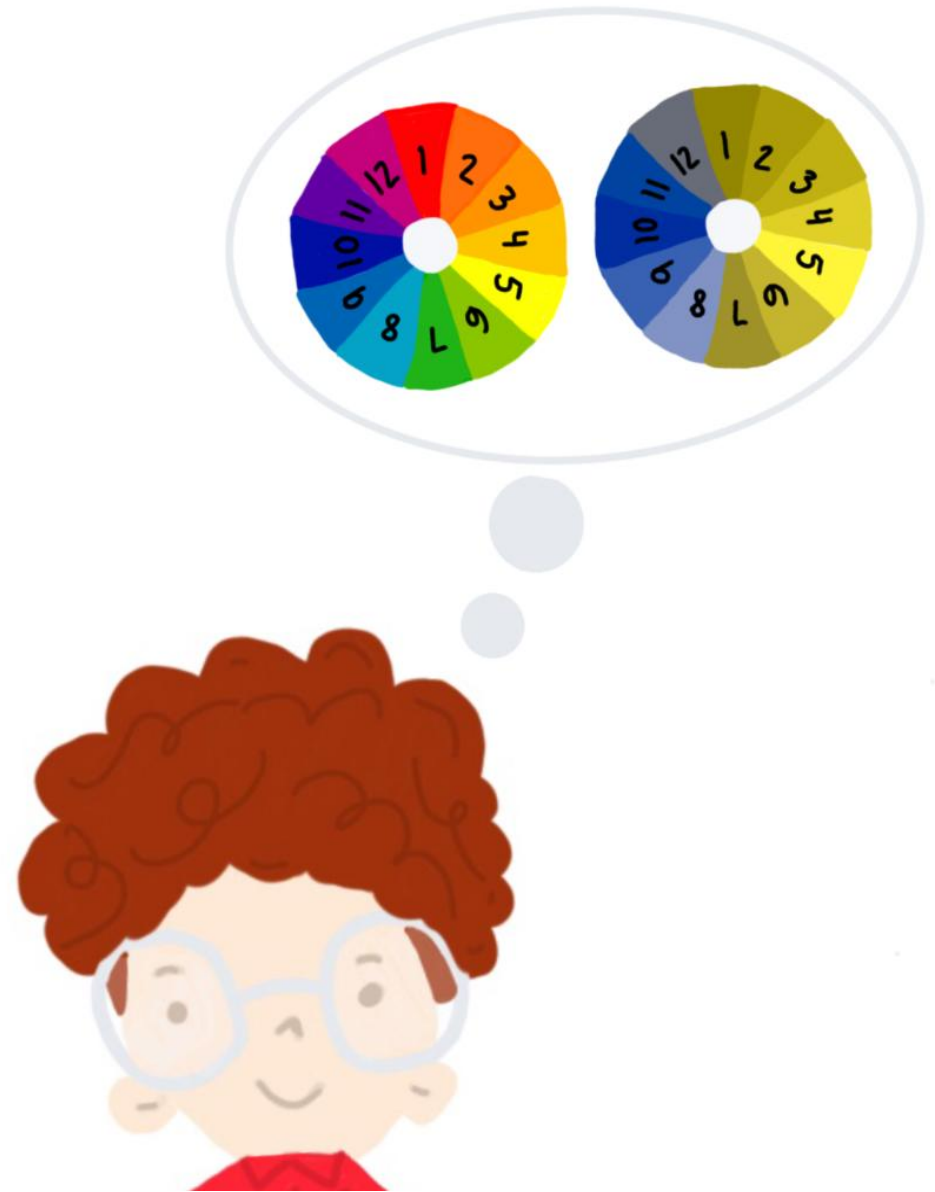
The world is full of many colors.  
Reds, greens, yellows and blues,  
all in different ranging hues.





But Johnny Drew, though nothing new,  
had always seen colors differently than me and then you.

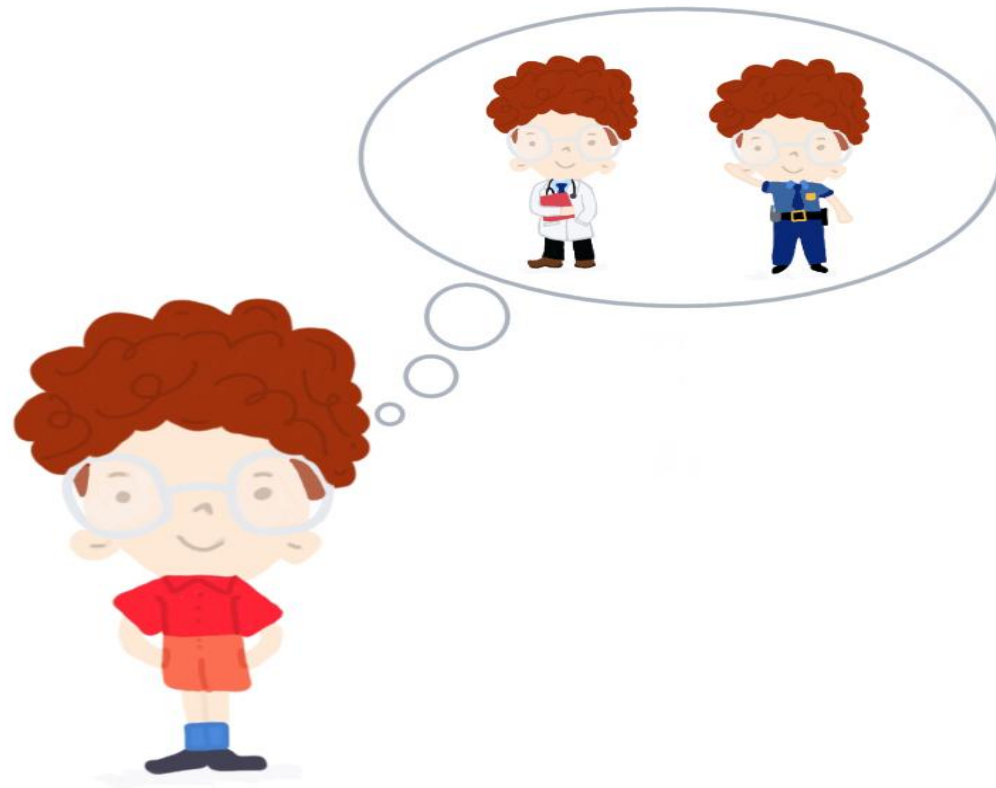
You see, Johnny is colorblind.  
This means that his eyes don't  
see colors the same way as  
most people's minds.



But being colorblind isn't painful or scary.  
It just means the colors Johnny can see  
sometimes can vary.



**Did You Know?**  
Color blindness is  
hereditary. That  
means it is passed  
down through your  
DNA!



Johnny might not see colors like some,  
but he always knows there's nothing he can't become.  
Sometimes he struggles and that's alright.  
Regardless though, he knows any dream isn't out of sight.



He plays soccer, reads books, and hangs with his friends.  
But most of all he likes to paint to no end.

Johnny starts his new school today.

He is a little worried about what the other kids might say.

Nevertheless, he is feeling prepared.

Wearing his favorite shirt and lucky socks, he wasn't scared!







But when his teacher showed him around,  
something quickly turned his smile upside down.



One kid called out, "What is he wearing?"  
And, he saw a few other kids were staring.  
He knew it was because his outfit didn't go.  
He couldn't help that the colors didn't flow.



This made Johnny feel sad,  
but he remembered something he had heard from his dad.  
"You are special and you are great.  
Don't let anyone put that up for debate!"

Johnny was shy as he walked back to his seat.  
He didn't know who he was about to meet.  
Next to him at his table,  
sat a little girl named Mabel.



"I like your shirt!" said Mabel with a grin.  
"Would you want to be my friend?"  
Johnny smiled back and nodded his head.  
"Sure," he turned to her and said.



Mabel sighed.

"I'm sorry they made fun of your clothes, but why did you choose those?"

Johnny explained that he is colorblind and how it can make colors hard to find.

Mabel's face lit up extra bright. "My grandpa is colorblind too!" she said with delight.

Johnny now had a big grin.

He was so excited about his new friend.



Did you know? Colorblindness is more common in men than women.



The next day in art class,  
Johnny's teacher gave them all a task.  
"We are going to have a classroom mural competition," she said.  
Johnny instantly had a million ideas running through his head.

But his thoughts slowly stopped,  
and his face slowly dropped,  
when he heard a kid say,  
“How could he have any good ideas;  
he couldn't tell his colors apart yesterday.”





This made Johnny feel sad.  
He didn't think his ideas were bad.  
Maybe the bully was right though.  
If he couldn't tell colors apart, how could he make his painting go?





Mabel noticed Johnny's frown.  
She didn't like her friend being down.  
"Don't listen to them,"  
she told him.

Johnny kept working on his art,  
even if he couldn't always tell the colors apart.  
Some kids noticed and laughed out loud.  
Johnny no longer felt very proud.  
He couldn't help that he saw red and not green.  
He wondered why the others were so mean.



Johnny's teacher noticed his frown.  
She pulled him aside to see what went down.  
He told her it was no big deal,  
but she knew his feelings were real.



Did you know?  
There are 3 main types  
of colorblindness:  
red-green, blue-yellow,  
and complete color blindness.

“Don’t listen to what they say;  
They just don’t understand you see colors a different way.  
You can always try your best,  
and if you do, you’ll be better than all the rest.”



This made Johnny smile.  
He hadn't felt this good in a while.

Back at his desk,  
Johnny tried his best.  
He forgot about the bully  
and jumped into his artwork fully.



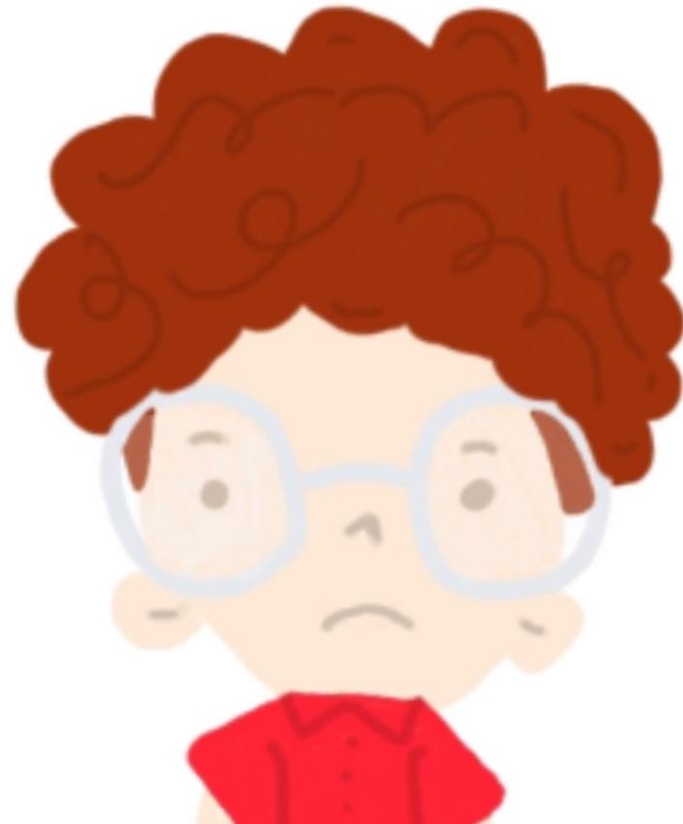
As the week went on,  
Johnny continued to work super long.  
With ideas flowing and colors blending,  
He didn't notice the time he was spending.



Soon the other kids started to look over and peek.  
They were curious about his art; it was so unique.



On the last day when the competition came to a close,  
Johnny was nervous whose art would be liked the most.  
He waited his turn to share his picture.  
He knew the colors were all in a mixture.







Finally Johnny's turn to present came.  
He was worried the other kids would think it was lame.  
But nevertheless, he held his picture high,  
a beautiful creation of a sunset in the sky.  
Everyone gasped, even the bully.  
They had never seen anything done so beautifully.

"I am colorblind and that is okay.  
It just means I see colors in a different way.  
I love myself and what makes me different."



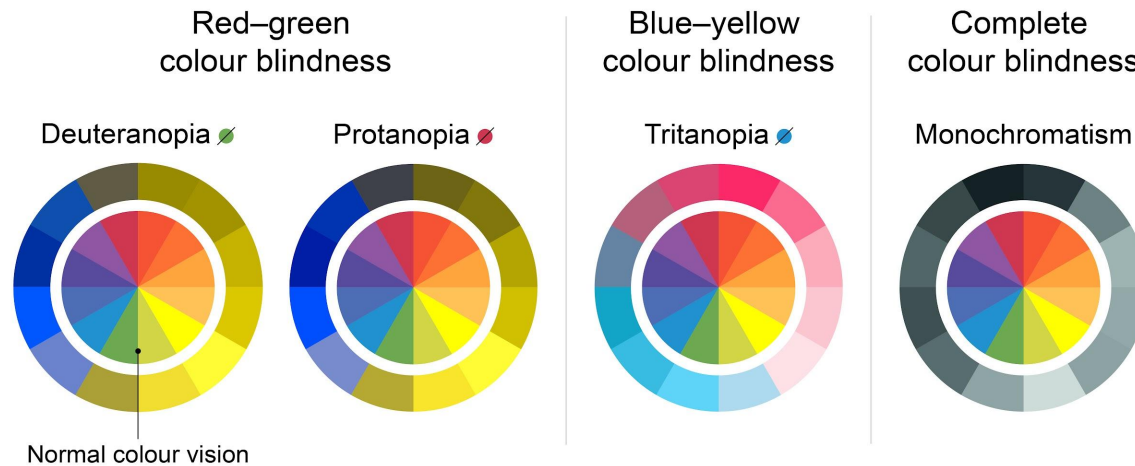
And the whole class agreed, Johnny was truly magnificent.

**Kindness always wins**



# Glossary

## Types of colorblindness:



(Health Direct, 2022)

**Mural:** a painting applied to and made integral with the surface of a wall or ceiling.

**Hereditary:** A characteristic determined by genetic factors and therefore able to be passed on from parents to their children.

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### **Image:**

Healthdirect Australia. (n.d.). *Colour blindness*. healthdirect. Retrieved April 18, 2023, from <https://www.healthdirect.gov.au/colour-blindness>

## About The Author

My name is Lauren Price. I am originally from a small town just outside of Raleigh, North Carolina called Clayton, but now I am currently living in Greenville, North Carolina. I am a junior at East Carolina University and I am an Elementary Education Major with a concentration in Interdisciplinary Studies. I am super passionate about working with children and making them all feel special and welcome when together. I have been working with kids since I was thirteen and really accredit that is why I wanted to pursue a career as an educator. I am a firm believer in having books for your students that allow them to see a bit of themselves as well as learn about others. My goal is to provide a wide variety of diverse literature for my future students. Outside of the classroom, I love playing piano, painting, and going to the beach.

Johnny Drew may see colors differently than me and you, but that doesn't hold him back on anything he wants to do!

Starting at a new school makes Johnny feel a little scared but with the help of a new friend he learns that he is more than his disability and his uniqueness and talent is something he should share.



