

# **The Colors of the World: A Rainbow Of Inclusion**

Once upon a time the colors of the world started to quarrel. All claimed that they were the best. The most important.

**Green said:**

"I am the most important. I am the sign of life and hope. I was chosen for grass, trees and leaves. Without me, all animals would die. Look over the countryside and you will see that I am in the majority."

**Blue interrupted:**

"You only think about the earth, but consider the sky and the sea. It is water that is the basis of life and drawn up by the clouds. The sky gives space and peace. Without me, you would all be nothing."

**Yellow chuckled:**

"You are all too serious. I bring laughter, and warmth into the world. The sun is yellow, the moon is yellow, the stars are yellow. Every time you look at a sunflower, the whole world starts to smile. Without me there is no fun."

**Orange started next to blow her trumpet:**

**"I am the color of health and strength. I may be scarce, but I am precious for I serve the needs of human life. I carry the most important vitamins. I don't hang around all the time, but when I fill the sky at sunrise or sunset, my beauty is so striking that no one gives another thought to any of you."**

**Red could stand it no longer he shouted out:**

**"I am the ruler of all of you. I am life's blood! I am the color of danger and of bravery. I am willing to fight for a cause. I bring fire. Without me, the earth is as empty as the moon. I am the color of passion and love, the red rose, and the poinsettia."**

**Purple rose up to his full height:**

**He was very tall and spoke with great pomp: "I am the color of royalty and power. Kings, chiefs, and bishops have always chosen me for I am the sign of authority and wisdom. People do not question me! They listen and obey."**

**Finally Indigo spoke, more quietly than the others:**

**I am the color of silence. You hardly notice me, but without me you all become superficial. I represent thought and reflection. You need me for balance and contrast, for prayer and inner peace."**

**And so the colors went on boasting, each convinced of their own superiority. Their quarreling became louder and louder. Suddenly there was a flash of lightening. Rain poured down relentlessly. The colors crouched down in fear, drawing close to one another for comfort.**

**In the midst of the clamor, Rain spoke:**

**"You foolish colors, fighting amongst yourselves, each trying to dominate the rest. Don't you know that you were each made for a special purpose, unique and different? Join hands with one another and come to me."**

**Doing as they were told, the colors united and joined hands.**

**The Rain continued:**

**"Now see, you all form a band of color across the sky as a reminder that you all can live in peace. The Rainbow is a sign of hope for tomorrow." And so, whenever a good rain washes the world, and a Rainbow appears in the sky, let us remember to appreciate one another as . . . we all are important!**

**Red like an apple. Orange, like a burning flame. Yellow like the sun. Green like a plant. Blue like the water. Purple like a flower in bloom. Indigo like the dreams that fill your heart.**