



Vocabulary: Additive Colors



Vocabulary

- Additive color – color that is produced by light that is emitted directly from a light source.
 - Sources of colored light may include the Sun, a light bulb, a computer screen, or a TV screen.
- Cyan – a greenish-blue color, similar to turquoise.
- Magenta – a pinkish-purple color.
- Primary colors – a set of colors (usually three) that can be combined to produce all other colors.
 - The most common primary colors of light are red, green, and blue (RGB).
 - The primary colors used in color printing are cyan, magenta, and yellow. (Black ink is also used.) This is known as the CMY or CMYK system.
- RGB value – the relative amounts of red, green, and blue light emitted from a light source such as a TV or computer screen.
 - “RGB” stands for “red,” “green,” and “blue.”
 - RGB values range from 0 to 255.
 - Black has an RGB value of 0, 0, 0.
 - White has an RGB value of 255, 255, 255.
 - Any color in nature can be closely matched by a color with a specific RGB value.
- Secondary color – a color obtained by mixing two primary colors.
 - When red, green, and blue are used as primary colors of light, the secondary colors are cyan, magenta, and yellow (CMY).
- Visible spectrum – the part of the electromagnetic spectrum that can be seen by the human eye.
 - Visible light has a wavelength between approximately 380 and 720 nanometers.
 - The order of colors in the visible spectrum (shown below) is red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet.

