Leggi e ascolta.

**Colour**

*A colour wheel is a circle of colours.* It has primary, secondary and tertiary colours. It is very important in art because it helps us choose and mix different colours.

**Primary colours**

Red, blue and yellow are primary colours. You can’t make them from other colours.

**Secondary colours**

We mix two primary colours to form secondary colours.

Look!
red and blue make purple
blue and yellow make green
yellow and red make orange

**Tertiary colours**

We mix a primary and a secondary colour to form a tertiary colour. Tertiary colours are, for example, blue-green, yellow-orange and red-purple.
Warm and cool colours

Red, orange and yellow are warm colours. They’re the colours of the sun. Blue, green and purple are cool colours. They’re the colours of water and nature. These colours create atmosphere in paintings.

Analogous colours

Analogous colours are colours that are similar. For example blue, blue-green and green are analogous colours. They create harmony in a painting. Look at Claude Monet’s painting *Water Lilies*, for example.

Complementary colours

Complementary colours, for example blue and orange, aren’t similar and they create contrast and movement in a painting. Vincent van Gogh’s painting *Café Terrace at Night* is a good example of this. Look at the colours of the café, chairs and sky.