

## "Multi colored and Multitalented: Finding you talents and Gifts."

*"This activity is designed to help individuals feel affirmed and become more aware of their giftedness, as well as the giftedness of others. Its is 45 to 90minute activity and is GREAT.*

"Supplies (listed in cargo) ten sets of paper, one in each of the colors mentioned. **Optional is the use of a story by Dr Seuss called The Sneeches or any other story about recognizing your own gifts and talents.**

*I like to begin with cut small squares of each color and at the end have each participant arrange the quares/tiles in a picture. It's fun to redo this over time and see how our "colors" change...reaffirming the seasons of our lives and how God is at work within each of us always.*

**Directions (adapted):** This activity will require a leader/parent to work with the teen. This is most effective when the adult also answers the questions or if this is done within a family gathering, even middle school siblings can participate in this activity.

Lay the colored papers in front of the teen or provide markers to "draw" color shapes in response to the questions. Share with the teen that they will be finding out what areas each of them are most gifted in and that the different colors of paper reflect different types of talents and giftedness. A series of questions will be asked and each time the answer is yes they are to tear a small piece of paper from the colored sheets in the center.

Ask the following questions one and a time - so that all can hear and have time to respond. Assure your teen that it doesn't matter how many total pieces that they collect. What matters are the colors that they end up with. Good leaders know the areas where they are most effective so this will help them to understand their strengths and effective skill areas.

Follow each question with the color paper that they should tear a piece off of.

At the end they should arrange the scraps into a picture...it's fun to see where this takes them.

Do you enjoy telling stories and jokes to your friends? (hot pink)

Do you like to sing? (orange)

Do you like it when your locker and bedroom are well organized? With all your stuff in certain categories in special places? (red)

Do you like finding patterns everywhere - in ceiling tiles, floorboards wallpaper, and even clouds? (yellow)

Are you often thinking about the consequence of the actions you take and how what you do might affect other people (lime green)

Can you easily add numbers in your head? (baby blue)

Do you like to dance? (purple)

Do you feel God's presence in your life in a personal and individual way? (pink)

Can you tell when one of your fiends is upset? (brown)

Are you pretty good at knowing what your own talents are (what you can do well and what you can't do well)? (forest green)

Can you remember characters and lines from TV shows and movies and quote them appropriately when talking with friends? (hot pink)

Do you like listening to music, and do you have some favorite groups or artists? (orange)

Are you good at watching a murder movie or reading a murder mystery and being able to figure out who the killer was, based on the clues? (red)

Do you enjoy drawing? (yellow)

Do you ever worry about innocent animals that get hurt or killed because of careless people's actions? (lime green)

Would you enjoy being the treasurer of a club or group and being responsible for the financial report listing all the money the group made and spent on various projects? (baby blue)

Can you find your way around - even in towns or cities where you have never been to before - and do you seldom feel lost? (purple)

Are you struck by the awesomeness of all creations, and do you find yourself feel connected to nature? (pink)

When you meet people, do you like making connections between what they are like, and what other friends you have are like? (brown)

Do you really like yourself? (Forrest green)

When you listen to your friends talk, do you notice whenever they make mistakes in their words, grammar or pronunciation? (hot pink)

Do you play a musical instrument or sing in a choir? (orange)

Do you enjoy flipping through science magazines and going to science museums? (red)

When figuring things out, do you often draw diagrams or pictures to help you see the total picture better? (yellow)

When you watch the news and see stories about earthquakes and wars, do you find yourself worrying about the victims long after the news is over? (lime green)

Do you enjoy working with computers? (baby blue)

Do you enjoy putting together puzzles? (purple)

Do you think about god often? (pink)

Are you good at predicting how people will react in certain situations? Can you almost tell what they will do or say? (brown)

Do you believe that your life and your talents are important? (forest green)

Do you like writing letters or keeping a journal or writing poetry? (hot pink)

Have you ever made up a song? (orange)

When you have a project to do, do you enjoy having a plan and working on it piece by piece, in order, from start to finish? (red)

Can you read a map well? (yellow)

Do you admire social activities? (lime green)

When you cook, can you double recipes or cut them in half, or make  $2\frac{1}{2}$  times the amount of food and easily figure out how to increase or decrease the ingredients? (baby blue)

Do you like taking things apart and putting them back together, just to see how they work? (purple)

Do you think that every person is a fascinating and beautiful creation of God, and that we were put on this earth to love one another and live together in peace? (pink)

Do you enjoy working as a team with a group of people in order to get a job done? (brown)

Are you good at understanding yourself and expressing your inner feelings? (forest green)

*Once you are finished with the 40 questions ask your teen to assemble their colors on an 8  $\frac{1}{2}$  X 11 paper with their name (this should be turned in-see below). While they do this explain that some people are gifted by being well rounded and have some of every color while others are gifted for being specialists - having a high concentration of 1 or just a few colors. Interests and talents are diverse - God' gives us all these talents. Perhaps you can compare and contrast your results.. this reinforces the diversity principle.*

*The next step is to use this accumulated information to identify 3 to 4 Teen/Parish Ministries that the teen is best suited for -given their personality assessment. This is a great way to identify opportunities to participate in our parish ministries..or gather a great idea for a new ministry.*

## Each color stands for:

Hot Pink is language

Orange is music

Red is logic

Yellow is justice

Lime Green is spirituality

Baby Blue is self-awareness

Purple is visual and spatial awareness

Pink is numbers and computations

Brown is body sensitivity and awareness

Forrest Green is people awareness