

For the regular version of Changing Colors, visit jrmf.org/puzzle/Changing-Colors and click on “Festival Guide”.

What does “beginner version” mean?

This version of Changing Colors was created with PreK - 2nd grade students in mind. However, “beginner” does not mean “easy,” and this version of Changing Colors can be an effective way to engage students of any age who:

- Have strong math anxieties
- Don’t feel confident with math or math puzzles
- Have learning differences
- Want a gentler start to the activity

Older students and parents at our events often engage with this beginner version and move on to the regular version when they feel ready.

When should I use the beginner version of Changing Colors?

We recommend using the beginner version of Changing Colors whenever you expect younger students (PreK - 2nd grade) to be present at your event.

Sometimes, we will have both the beginner and regular versions of the activity available as both are designed to use the same manipulatives. The difference between the two versions is the instruction sheet. If you ever need to switch from one version to the other, you only need to swap out the instruction sheet for the activity.

How do I use the beginner version of Changing Colors?

1. **Only Younger Students** - Only put out the beginner instructions for the activity. You can also set aside one or two copies of the regular instructions for students who want an extra challenge.
2. **Younger Students followed by Older Students** - Start by using the beginner version of the activity. Instruct volunteers to swap out the instructions when the younger students leave.
3. **Mixed Age Group** - Set up half the table with the beginner instructions and the other half with the regular instructions for the activity. For younger students, volunteers should start them on the beginner version. For older students, volunteers should tell them that there is a beginner and regular version, and then let them pick where they want to start.

Changing Colors Instructions

Rule:

- Make both shapes in two different ways.

Puzzle 1

