Lesson: Colors of My Skin

Objective:
Students will paint self-portraits by mixing paints to match their skin tones and through this realize everybody’s different, no “black” or “white.” Also the students will learn to be patient because they will need to share paints with their table and wait their turn for the color paints that they may choose to use.

Methods:
Each table of students will be handed a variety of colors of paint. They will have to share the paint with their table and make their self portraits. Then the students can share with the class their self portraits and describe their colors that they mixed. Have a class discussion with the students on how sharing the paints went. What ways could they work together better? What helped them work together?

Concepts Taught:
The students will learn that everyone is different in their own way, and no one is “white” or “black,” etc. They will also learn how to be patient and share.

Resources:
You will need to provide students with paint, paintbrushes, paper, and cups of water, smocks, newspaper to cover tables, and possibly extra paper or mixing trays to mix the paints.

Assessment:
Students will be assessed through their sharing and explanation of their self portrait.

Illinois Learning Standards Addressed:

2B.1a. Social/Emotional Learning (SEL): Describe the ways that people are similar and different.
2C.1a. Social/Emotional Learning (SEL): Identify ways to work and play well with others.
2C.1b. Social/Emotional Learning (SEL): Demonstrate appropriate social and classroom behavior.