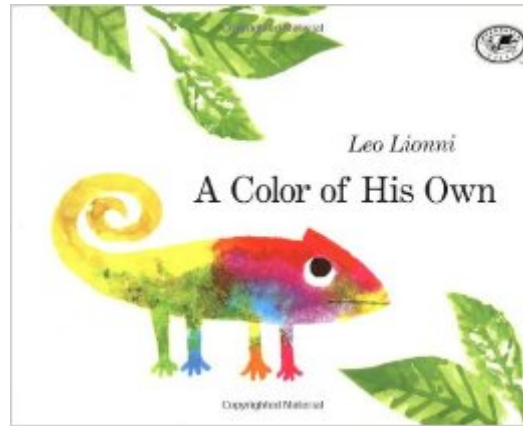


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# A Color Of His Own



## Synopsis

Elephants are gray. Pigs are pink. Only the chameleon has no color of his own. He is purple like the heather, yellow like a lemon, even black and orange striped like a tiger! Then one day a chameleon has an idea to remain one color forever by staying on the greenest leaf he can find. But in the autumn, the leaf changes from green to yellow to red . . . and so does the chameleon. When another chameleon suggests they travel together, he learns that companionship is more important than having a color of his own. No matter where he goes with his new friend, they will always be alike.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0640 (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Knopf Books for Young Readers (1997)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0679887857

ISBN-13: 978-0679887850

Product Dimensions: 7.8 x 0.2 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (124 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #11,098 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #9 in [Books > Children's Books >](#)

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#1412 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life](#)

Age Range: 2 - 5 years

Grade Level: Preschool - Kindergarten

## Customer Reviews

As a library clerk for the past two years, I have loved this book for a long time, and it's absolutely my favorite. Aside from the fact that Lionni was a gifted writer and illustrator (who will be sadly missed), I love this book because it's a story about being accepted, and learning to accept yourself. As if any of us know what color we are, literally or metaphorically. The most we can hope for is to find someone with whom we can share all our different colors.

A Color of His Own is a wonderful beginning book for young children that teaches children colors. This book also stresses the importance of being and individual and does so in a way that young

children can understand. In this book, a young chameleon searches high and low for his own color. He decides to stay on a leaf so he will be green forever. Soon, fall comes, the leaves change, and so does he. Sadly, he leaves his leaf and runs into another older and wiser chameleon. He tells the chameleon about his troubles, and the older comforts him and suggests that the two stay together. "We will still change color wherever we go," says the wiser chameleon, "but you and I will always be alike." The objects and animals in this book are presented very clearly with uncluttered illustrations. Each object or animal is clearly identified by its color on each particular page. Lionni does a great job of using clear, simple language to introduce each color. The artwork is unique and catches the attention of young children. Overall, *A Color of His Own*, is a great book to use to teach young children the concept of colors. Lionni's simple language and inventive style of illustrations make this book the success it is. This book serves as a great teaching tool to use with young children.

Join this charming chameleon on the road to discovery where he searches for a "color of his own." He learns to adapt to different "colored" environments while feeling left out, and along the way befriends a fellow chameleon and gains lasting companionship and happiness. This delightful board book captures babies attention with simple content and colorful illustrations, while teaching young children about feelings of belonging, friendship, compassion, and the most obvious - colors: green, red, gray, pink, yellow, and purple. This is a terrific tale! One-year and up.

First, let me say I love the message of the story. There is a chameleon who wants "A Color Of His Own", because other animals and things have their own colors. Later, he finds another chameleon and they always stick together, so they are always the same. Here is my issue with the book: the illustrations. While I like the style of the art, the colors themselves make me scratch my head. The goldfish is red (even the text says a goldfish is red), and the lemon is pretty green. (A classroom of preschoolers today yelled "GREEN!" for what color the chameleon turned when standing on a lemon). Again, very cute, and I like the story, but I'm not sure if I'd want to read it to a classroom or to my own kids over and over, clarifying each time that the colors are a little off. Of course I don't think a child would grow up thinking things are the wrong colors, but kids who "get it" will ask every time or point it out every time which of course affects the flow of the reading.

I got this for my son because I had read good reviews about it. Well, it is one of the best books for children. It teaches to be yourself and love yourself. The chameleon wants to be just one color, but of course it isn't possible. In the end he makes a friend with another chameleon who teaches him to

accept himself. I recommend this book for all who have children. I think too many people grow up not feeling good about themselves and this book is a good teaching tool.

A board book perfect for toddlers that brings together pretty illustrations with a story about individuality and togetherness. You and your child will love "A Color of his own." This is a story about self-acceptance, self-worth, and touches on our desire to connect with others and the value of friendship. Its also bright, colorful, and a fantastic page-turner for kiddos.

My daughter is not quite a year, and she laughed at the colorful pictures. The pictures are really well done, and the story is wonderful. The chameleon is searching for permanence. He tries to stay on a leaf and remain the same color forever, but he changes with the color of the leaf in the autumn, and he goes through the dark winter. But then he meets another chameleon! His need for something unchanging could not be met by denying his nature and remaining the same color all the time. Instead, his need was met by his new companion. This is a really good lesson. We can't be perfect. We can't have "ideal" lives. We can't remain young forever. But it's our close relationships that help us go through life. I hope my daughter finds friends who will be there through life's changing colors.

There are wonderful teacher outlines on various sites (search for lesson plans or specific books) using this book to incorporate various learning activities. One of my favorite is cutting the inside out of a copy of a chameleon and then moving the outside copy over different items to show how the chameleon changes color to match what it is up against. Kids love this!

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