



# True Colors<sup>®</sup> in Student Affairs

## *application tips*

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### **Example Two Minute Color Awareness Applications in the Office Environment**

**Name Signs:** Offices have denoted staff offices with names typed in the dominant color and titles in secondary color.

**Name Tags:** Use stickers to note staff's dominant colors on our Student Affairs nametags.

**Plate Activity:** Hang your plate paper craft from your introductory session to signify your ENTIRE spectrum and how it changes as colors brighten and fade.

**Learning Outcomes:** Post the True Colors learning outcomes or re-phrase them to coincide with your department's goals and objectives. Link them further to your strategic directions as a reminder that when we know each other's strengths, we're more efficient.

**Keep it Light:** Consider using information from Mary Miscisin's website [www.positivelymary.com](http://www.positivelymary.com) to keep colors in the conversation. Share an email link, close your staff meeting with a thought, enjoy the comical parts of our color exploration together.

For example: she shares a license plate activity where you guess the color perspective at <http://www.positivelymary.com/free-stuff/License-Plate-Activity.html> and has a weekly email that you can choose to subscribe to for more information.

**Agendas:** We all have to conduct/plan meetings. Ensure that there are parts of your meeting that appeal to all dominants colors (i.e. strategic step by step-gold, comprehensive information-green, interactive/discussion portion-blue and variety-orange.) There are too many examples to name.

**Share Information:** For staff members that are having hard time with "by in" to the theory of True Colors share the research with them or share applications from a different genre (i.e. career exploration, parenting, communication, sports psychology, etc). There is a lot out there. Here is a link to one example of some research comparing True Colors to MBTI — <http://www.truecolorscareer.com/images/TRUECLRSRes.pdf>

### **For A Larger Impact Application in the Office Environment**

**Retreat Activities:** One office held a scavenger hunt at ITC and wove in True Colors. Weave True Colors into your already planned activities. Consider picking teams and representation based on evenly blended color groups if your department is large enough.

Consider a walk-a-bout activity where staff stand beside a sign with their color spectrum and then introduce themselves to colleagues (all over again) by stating "I know I'm a gold because." Some may introduce themselves as a blend of two colors. It helps staff personalize their True Colors spectrum awareness. Additionally, one staff member raised the idea of considering color perspectives when looking at departmental brainstorming.

**Team Up to Brighten:** Remember that we can all use a chance to brighten different colors in our spectrum. Verbalize that with staff and encourage them to grow from someone with an opposite spectrum from their own. Don't forget to also call in the reinforcements and schedule a departmental True Colors facilitation today!

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