

Colorful Crayons: Inside a Crayon Factory



World Almanac for Kids

Colorful crayons!

If you are like most kids, you've probably drawn a picture with crayons. Have you ever wondered how crayons are made?

1. Mix

Crayon wax is melted in pots at the factory. Colored powder called **pigment** is mixed into the wax.

2. Mold

Colorful hot liquid wax is poured into crayon-shaped holes called **molds**. The liquid wax fills up the molds.

3. Cool

The crayon wax is left to cool. Then it is pushed out of the molds. Hard crayons come out!

4. Check

Workers check the hard crayons. Crayons that are not perfect are put aside to be melted in another batch.

5. Label

Perfect crayons are taken to a machine. It puts a label on each crayon. Finished crayons are sorted by color.

6. Box

The labeled crayons are placed into boxes, and the tops are closed. The colorful crayons are ready!

Colorful Crayon Facts

It takes about three to five minutes to make a crayon.

Most 2- to 8-year-olds color for about a half hour every day.

Experts say that the smell of a crayon is one of the easiest scents to recognize.

The nickname for worn-down crayons is "leftolas."

Most children in the United States will wear down 730 crayons by the time they are 10 years old!

Think About It

What might happen next to a finished box of crayons?