The Big Orange Splot
by Daniel Pinkwater

Matrix Developed by Donna Y. Ford (2011)
Vanderbilt University

Bloom-Banks Matrix
AKA
Ford-Harris Matrix
The colour **orange** occurs between red and yellow in the visible spectrum at a wavelength of about 585–620 nm, and has a hue of 30° in HSV colour space. It is numerically halfway between red and yellow in a gamma-compressed RGB colour space, the expression of which is the RGB colour wheel. The complementary colour of orange is blue; however, certain shades can be considered more complimentary to green based on reactions by eye cones. Orange pigments are largely in the ochre or cadmium families, and absorb mostly blue light.
ORANGE:
Common Connotations

• desire
• fire
• determination
• compassion
• endurance
• warning
• optimism

• Autumn
• Halloween
• Thanksgiving
• Engineering
• Prisoners
• Orangism (Netherlands)
• Unionism in Ireland
• Indian religions

• **splot** - A graph plotting package from Stanford University which produces encapsulated PostScript.

• **splot** is more flexible than gnuplot in producing histograms, and you can set font and symbol sizes individually.
BTW...WHAT’S IN A NAME?

Plum´be`an

• a. 1. Consisting of, or resembling, lead.
• 2. Dull; heavy; stupid.
• Webster's Revised Unabridged Dictionary, published 1913 by C. & G. Merriam Co.
Pre-Reading

• What’s your favorite color?
• Share with students the color wheel.
• What is this book about? Infer/predict.
  – Explain your response.
• Survey: How many other students had the same inference as you?
• Vote on which response you think is most accurate.
**Initial Thoughts to Guide Matrix**

- **What are the big ideas/concepts?**
  - Self-expression
    - How can laws affect (promote or hinder/suppress) self-expression and creativity and individuality?
    - Should laws be allowed to dictate conformity, etc.?
  - Peer pressure
  - Conformity
  - Differences
  - Multiple viewpoints
  - Change

- **Topics**
  - Creativity
  - Habitat
  - Color

- **Subjects/Skills**
  - Reading
  - Vocabulary
  - Music
  - Science
  - Math
  - Art
  - others

- **What do you want students to learn about themselves? To learn about others?**
- **How can students/readers use the big ideas for action/making a difference?**
The Big Orange Spot: **Context**

- What age/developmental AND cultural group are you working with?
  - **RELEVANCE & RESPONSIVENESS**
    - Interests
    - Readiness
    - Skills
    - Contexts/situations
    - Needs (Maslow)
- Which standard(s) are you addressing/targeting?
- What is your goal/objectives? What do you want students (individual and groups) to take away from the book/reading?
  - Race and ethnicity?
  - Transgenerational students?
  - Income level and SES
  - Gender
  - Age and grade level
- How can 2-3 tiered lesson/activities be developed for each cell/most cells?
- How can the lessons/activities be interdisciplinary and/or cross many content areas?
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<th>Analysis</th>
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<tr>
<td>D.Y. Ford (2011)</td>
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<td>Is the color ‘orange’ a primary or secondary color?</td>
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<td>What two colors are combined to make ‘orange’?</td>
<td>Draw pictures of # things/items that are orange.</td>
<td>Why do you think the author (Pinkwater) decided to use the color orange in the title and book? (inference)</td>
<td>Create a song or poem using the color orange.</td>
<td>Ask a few of your classmates or friends about their favorite color. What patterns do you see? How many of your classmates like/dislike oranges? Why?</td>
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<td>Define ‘neat’.</td>
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<td>An orange is a fruit. Where do oranges come from?</td>
<td>Draw a picture of Plumbean’s house using your favorite color(s).</td>
<td>How many types or variations of the color orange do you see in this room? Identity and name them.</td>
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<td>What is a splot?</td>
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<td>Find/list/identify # items in our room or school that are orange.</td>
<td>Anagram - using a minimum of two letters, make 5 or more words out of ‘orange.”</td>
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<td>Talk about seagulls with students…</td>
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<td>What are the main ideas of the book/story?</td>
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<td>Additive</td>
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<td>SORUCE: Donna Y Ford 2011</td>
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<td>What does the word ‘splot’ mean? What are other terms for ‘splot’? Synonyms? Antonyms? Other terms: jungle, explosion, etc.</td>
<td>Find and define other words in the book that you did not know or understand (e.g., frangipani, baobabs, belfry). Use them in a sentence. Find synonyms for them.</td>
<td>What kind/type of fruit is an orange? Where do fruits fit in the food pyramid? Discuss expressions, phrases, idioms (lost his marbles, slipped his hawser, gushed his mush, bees in bonnet, bats in his belfry, knots in his noodle). Find the origins of the expressions. p.15 (5)</td>
<td>Use your imagination to write a different story based on a different color.</td>
<td>The books says no one knows why Mr. Plumbean was carrying orange paint. Why do you think he was carrying paint – specifically orange paint? Survey your classmates. (3) Should Plumbean have changed his house back to being ‘neat’? What did you like or dislike about the book? Explain and support your response. (1)</td>
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<td>How is a fruit different from a vegetable? What veggies are orange? Define and then compare and contrast examples of peer pressure in this book.</td>
<td>The books says no one knows why the seagull was carrying orange paint. Why do you think it was carrying paint – specifically orange paint? (3) Did Mr. Plumbean tell the truth when he said he’d paint the house again? Half truth… The author’s name is “Pinkwater”. Why do you think he chose orange rather than pink for the title and story? What do you think Mr. Plumbean and the man/neighbor talked about over lemonade? (4) What skills of persuasion might have been used? What did you like and dislike about the book? (1)</td>
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<td>How do you think Plumbean felt by his neighbors’ comments and reactions?</td>
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<td><strong>How do you think Mr. Plumbean felt being told/pressured to repaint his house?</strong></td>
<td>Define and then discuss compare and contrast examples of peer pressure in this book. How does bullying or peer pressure feel?</td>
<td>The author’s name is “Pinkwater”. Why do you think he chose orange rather than pink for the title and story? What title would you have chosen -- pink or orange? (2) Why?</td>
<td>Develop a plan for Mr. Plumbean to work with his neighbors to see that is OK to be different and/or creative.</td>
<td>Re-write the story and events from the perspective of the man, a neighbor, the seagull, and/or the house (e.g., do you think the house liked being different?).</td>
<td><strong>The author’s name is “Pinkwater”. Why do you think he chose orange rather than pink for the title and story? What title would you have chosen based on pink or orange? Support your position. Make a chart/graph... (2)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Talk to another student about how colors communicate views and preferences.</strong></td>
<td>Share with other students how being different can be positive, even when others do not agree with or support you.</td>
<td>Talk to someone else about the book. Ask him/her/them to compare and contrast how they would have dealt with their neighbors. Share their suggestions with classmates in your preferred way.</td>
<td>Create a song or poem to use with other students that helps them to value their differences... to not give into (negative) peer pressure and conformity.</td>
<td>Develop a PSA for the morning announcement on...</td>
<td><strong>What other ways can differences be resolved based on the book? Survey students and develop a plan to implement and share with your preferred audience.</strong></td>
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Books...on Color

Compare and Contrast

• My many colored days
• The color wizard
• The crayon boxed that talked
• Ugly Duckling vs. Ebony Duckling
• White socks only
• Grandpa is every thing black bad?
Color:

history and symbolism and affiliation

- Meaning of symbols – sun, lion, elephant
- Color and history and geography
- Color and religion
- Color and sports
- Color and universities
- Color and fraternities
- Color and gender
- Color and ???
Other Books...Poems, Songs

• Peer pressure
• Valuing differences
• Conformity
• Creativity
In the sport of baseball some foul poles are orange, but only one in Major League Baseball, belonging to the New York Mets at their home ballpark Citi Field (and previously, Shea Stadium).

Orange is a team color for a number of professional sports teams.

- Major League Baseball
- Baltimore Orioles
- Detroit Tigers
- New York Mets
- San Francisco Giants
- National Basketball Association
- Oklahoma City Thunder
- Charlotte Bobcats
- New York Knicks
- Phoenix Suns
- National Football League
- Chicago Bears
- Cincinnati Bengals
- Cleveland Browns
- Denver Broncos
- Miami Dolphins
- Indian Premier League
- Kochi Tuskers Kerala
- National Hockey League
- Philadelphia Flyers
- New York Islanders
- Anaheim Ducks
- San Jose Sharks