This Adapted Literature resource is available through the Sherlock Center Resource Library.

The text and graphics are adapted from the original source. These resources are provided for teachers to help students with severe disabilities participate in the general curriculum. Please limit the use and distribution of these materials accordingly.
Once there were three white mice on a white piece of paper.
The cat couldn't find them.
One day, while the cat was asleep, the mice saw three jars of paint—
one red, one yellow, and one blue.
They thought it was Mouse Paint. They climbed right in.
Then one was red, one was yellow, and one was blue.
They dripped puddles of paint onto the paper.
The puddles looked like fun.
The red mouse stepped into a yellow puddle and did a little dance.
His red feet stirred the yellow puddle until...
"Look," he cried.
“Red feet in a yellow puddle make orange!”
The yellow mouse hopped into a blue puddle.
His feet mixed and stirred and stirred and mixed until . . .
"Look down," said the red mouse and the blue mouse.
"Yellow feet in a blue puddle make green."
Then the blue mouse jumped into a red puddle.
He splashed and mixed and danced until...
“Purple!” they all shouted.
"Blue feet in a red puddle make purple!"
But the paint on their fur got sticky and stiff.
So they washed themselves down to a nice soft white
and painted the paper instead. They painted one part red
and one part yellow
and one part blue.
They mixed red and yellow to paint an orange part,
yellow and blue to paint a green part,
and blue and red to paint a purple part.
But they left some white because of the cat.
Join three white (but not for long!) mice in this playful introduction to the world of color.

"Walsh's cut-paper collage illustrations have bold colors and just the right simplicity for the storyline. A real charmer that's great fun as well as informative."
—School Library Journal (starred review)

"Simplicity reigns in Walsh's brief tale, and a feeling of joyful discovery pervades her broad lines and expressive figures."—Publishers Weekly

A Horn Book Fanfare Selection
An IRA-CBC Children's Choice
A Publishers Weekly Best Book of the Year
A Publishers Weekly Children's Bestseller

$10.95 / Higher in Canada

Ages 6 months to 3 years