

## The Colour Wheel and Colour Theory

### The Colour Wheel

- The colour wheel shows us how colours are organized, blended and used. It shows the relationship between colours and how different colours are made.
- The first colour wheel was invented in 1666 by a scientist called Isaac Newton.
- The colour wheel is made up of 12 parts and all the colours come from the **3 primary colours: red, blue and yellow**.
- Our basic colour wheel has 6 parts.
- First you start with the **primary colours: red, blue and yellow**. These cannot be made from any other colours.
- Then you have **3 secondary colours** and each one of these is made by mixing 2 primary colours together.  
**Red + yellow = orange**  
**Yellow + blue = green**  
**Blue + red = purple**
- Colours also have temperature; they can be **warm** or **cold**.
- The colours **red, orange and yellow** are the **warm** colours, like sun and fire. The colours **blue, green and purple** are the **cold** colours, like the sky or water.
- On the full colour wheel, which is made up of 12 parts, there are **3 primary colours, 3 secondary colours** and **6 tertiary colours**.
- **Tertiary colours** are made by mixing a primary colour with a secondary colour.
- The **tertiary colours** are:  
**Red-orange = Vermilion**  
**Red-purple = Magenta**  
**Yellow-orange = Amber**  
**Yellow-green = Chartreuse**  
**Blue-green = Teal**  
**Blue-purple = Violet**

### Colour Theory

- Every colour is made up of 3 parts: **hue, saturation and value**.
- **Hue** - this is another word for colour.
- **Saturation** – this means how much colour is in something, so how strong or pale a colour is.
- **Value** – this is how dark or light a colour is. **Shade** is the darkness of a colour which is produced by adding black. **Tint** is the lightness of a colour and this is produced by adding white.