Before you begin reading, tell children that you are going to read them a book that they will probably be reading very soon for themselves. Tell them that there will be many words that they know. Tell them that there will also be some words that they don’t know, but that they will understand as you read together and look at the pictures. Follow the steps below to initiate children into the reading.

- **Use prior knowledge:** Help children brainstorm the colors of different objects in everyday life. Tell them to look around the classroom or to think of objects at home or outside. As children name objects, encourage them to name the objects’ colors in Spanish.

- **Examine the cover and title:** Talk with children about what’s on the cover, including the title. Ask them what they think the book will be about. Ask children to name the colors of various objects on the cover: oso—marrón (bear—brown), helado de chocolate—marrón (chocolate ice cream—brown), helado de fresa—rosado (strawberry ice cream—pink), delantal—negro y blanco (apron—black and white), collar—verde y amarillo (necklace—green and yellow).

- **Ask:** ¿Cómo se llaman los autores? (What are the authors’ names?)

**Read the Book**

Children enjoy reading the same book over and over again. Don’t hesitate to read this book many times. When the book is very familiar, you may want to ask children to “read” it aloud—calling out words or sentences—as a class or individually. Give generous praise to children for their reading and participation. Below are suggestions for discussion. Please take them as points of departure only; keep in mind that you are the best judge for customizing the discussion for your children’s maximum learning and enjoyment. Read the text on each page before asking questions.

- **Pp. 2–3:** Vamos a ver los colores de la feria. (Point to “FERIA” sign.) Son muy bonitos, ¿no? Muéstrame el elefante. ¿De qué color es? Muéstrame el cocodrilo. ¿De qué color es? Las serpientes son de muchos colores, ¿no? También hay una oveja blanca, y un pato que vende boletos. (Point to “BOLETOS” sign.) El oso come un helado y tiene tres globos. ¿De qué colores son los globos? ¿Qué figuras hay aquí?

- **Pp. 4–5:** Muéstrame las luces verdes y las luces blancas. ¿Qué animal come helado y tiene globos? ¿Cuántos caballos hay? Mira el payaso. (Point to the clown.) Muéstrame el ratón. Muéstrame el perro.

- **Pp. 6–7:** ¿Qué colores hay aquí? ¿Qué figuras hay? ¿Cuántos triángulos hay? Mira el payaso. (Point to the clown.) ¿Cuántos animales hay? ¿Qué animales son?

- **Pp. 8–9:** Hay un animal grande aquí con un sombrero. ¿Qué animal es? También hay muchos animales pequeños. ¿Qué animales son pequeños? Los animales pequeños son juguetes. (Point to “JUGUETES” sign.) ¿De qué colores son los juguetes? ¿Qué juguetes hay?

- **Pp. 10–11:** ¡Hay muchos colores y figuras aquí! Muéstrame el amarillo. Muéstrame el rojo. Muéstrame los cuadrados. También hay un león que vende nueces. (Point to “NUECES” sign.) Los conejos tienen hambre, ¿no?

Optional activity: Repeat reading the book, this time asking the questions in English. Have children tell you what is going on in English.
Here are some questions for further discussion.

- What is your favorite color? Why is it your favorite?
- What would our world be like without any colors? Would it be like nighttime, or do you still see colors at night?
- What colors do you see a lot in spring, summer, fall, and winter?

Now you have your own “De colores” book!

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**Extending the Book**

Here is a project for children to relate the book to their lives.

- Choose five of your favorite things.
- Draw and color those things, each one on a different sheet of paper.
- Staple your sheets into a book.
- Label the colors in Spanish.

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**Translation**

**Of Many Colors**

There are pretty colors at the fair, and they are combined everywhere.

Green, white, green, white, so the colors go; the pretty lights that are glowing.

Pink, pink, blue—pink, pink, blue—so the colors go. How beautiful the wheel where all the animals are!

Here the colors are combined, and the animals are very lively.

There are pretty colors at the fair, and they are combined everywhere.