Mixing coloured pigments

Take a piece of blue chalk and a piece yellow chalk. Crush them and mix them. The resulting colour is green. These are not pure colour pigments. Notice that green is between yellow and blue in the spectrum. The yellow absorbs all colours but yellow and green. The blue absorbs all colours but blue and green; thus the yellow and blue absorb each other and the green is reflected to the eye.

Try the same experiment by mixing paints from a painter’s box.