

**BOUNDARY REVIEW COMMITTEE****Minutes of a meeting of the Boundary Review Committee held on Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2012 at 6.0 p.m. in the Civic Offices, Telford, Shropshire**

**PRESENT:** Councillors R.J. Sloan (Chairman), K.T. Blundell, S. Davies, N.J. Dugmore , A.J. Eade, A.D. McClements and R.A. Overton.

**BRC-1      APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None.

**BRC-2      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**BRC-3      BOROUGH ELECTORAL REVIEW**

Members received the report of the Assistant Director: Law, Democracy & Public Protection which provided briefing information of the Further Electoral Review of the Borough. This was one of a series of three briefings that had been scheduled for Members to consider:

- Overview of the Review and introduction to the question of Council size
- The question of Community Identity – linked to electorate forecasting across the Borough
- Consideration of ‘effective and convenient local government’ - the question of ‘how many councillors does it take?’

The final briefing in August would lead to the Committee’s recommendation to Full Council on 13th September on the appropriate Council size.

The Electoral Services Team Leader provided Members with copies of slides which dealt with the various elements of the review and invited questions from members at the end of his presentation.

**Review**

A review was due to be conducted by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE).The review operated to statutory criteria and would consider the electoral arrangements of the Borough.

- Council size
- Electoral equality (number of electors to councillors)
- Number and boundaries of wards
- Number of councillors to be elected for each ward
- Ward names

The review had been triggered by a number of factors. The last review had been completed in 2002 and had resulted in the current arrangements whereby the Borough had 33 wards which were represented by a total of 54 councillors. The current electoral quota was 2,292 electors per councillor.

Development within the Borough meant that 36% of the Borough wards were now either 10% above or below the electoral quota, no ward was currently more than 30% above or below the electoral quota.

The review process would begin with initial information gathering, produce a recommendation on Council size and then prepare and publish draft recommendations. These recommendations would be publicised and subject to consultation. Following this a final report would be produced and an order made for new arrangements to be in place for May 2015 local elections. Councillor A.D. McClements noted that any proposals on Council size should be properly supported with evidence showing how that size of Council would properly support the business of the Council

LGBCE guidance on Council size indicated that they would expect views to be argued along the lines of 'effective and convenient local government: how many councillors would it take for the councillors and the Council to conduct statutory roles and the Council's business most effectively.

Councillor A.D. McClements noted that any

### **Statutory Criteria**

LGBCE were required to work to a number of statutory criteria:

- Electoral Fairness
- Community Identity
- Effective and Convenient Local Government
- Future Development

### **Parishes**

LGBCE had no powers to alter Parish boundaries. In drawing up Borough wards, Parishes and Parish wards should not be split. However, there were powers to make consequential changes to Parish electoral arrangements.

- Parish council size
- Division of Parishes into Parish wards
- The number and boundaries of Parish wards
- The number of councillors per ward
- Names of Parish wards

Members raised a number of questions. In order to provide evidence on the question of Council size a councillor workload survey was currently being prepared for circulation to Members. This would look at the split of time spent performing different aspects of the councillor's role. A number of Members noted that there were a number of significant issues and additional responsibilities that would have an impact on councillor workloads in the future. These included:

- Public Health workload
- Community engagement role, particularly in relation to social deprivation
- Welfare Reform agenda

The Chairman, with the agreement of the meeting, proposed that officers provide information on 2 models of Council size to the next meeting of the Committee in July. This would enable Members to look at the feasibility of each model, taking in to account councillor/elector ratios and communities of identity and to discuss evidence supporting these options that would lead towards recommending a suitable Council size for the Borough.

The models for consideration would be for

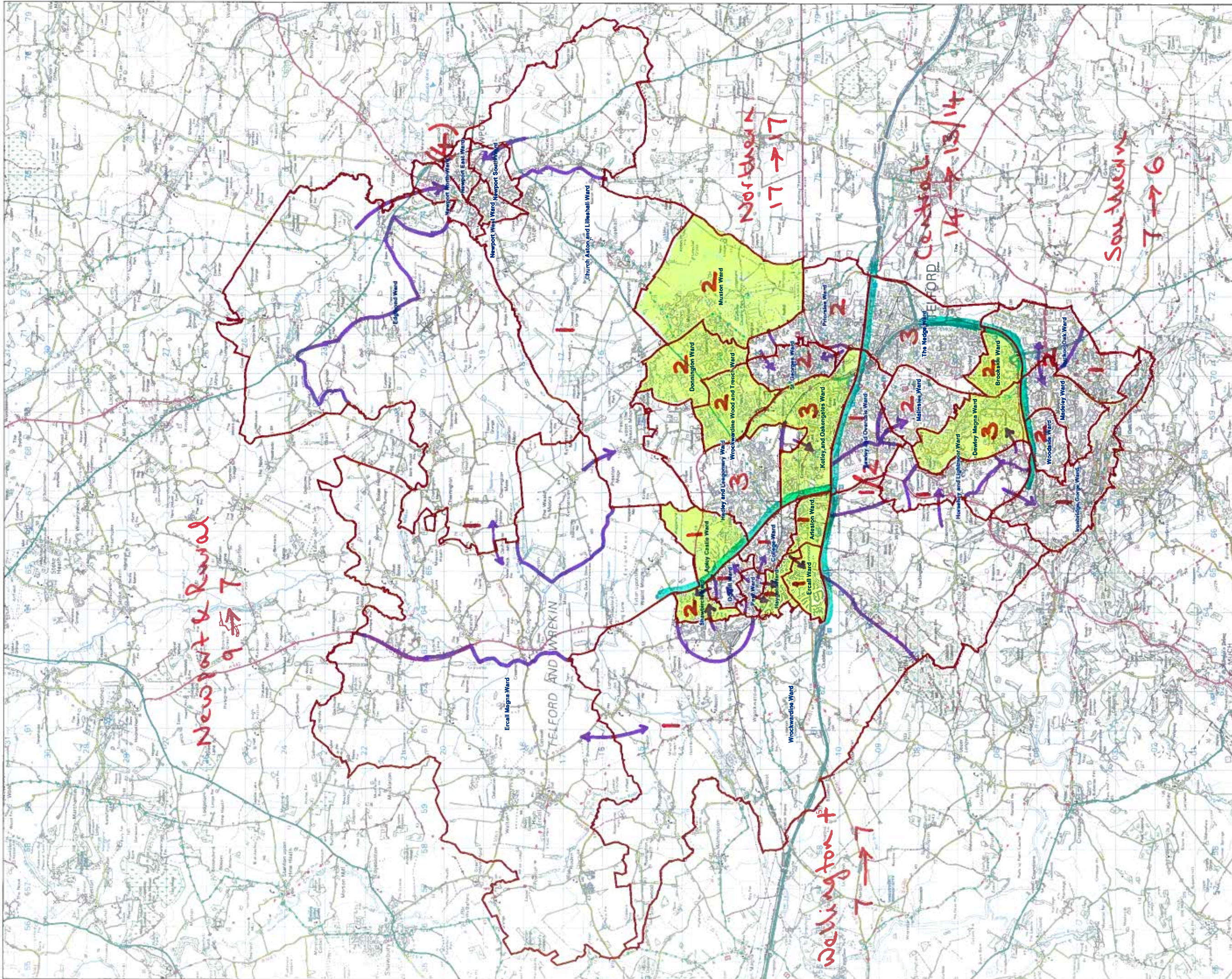
- a) Council size of 50
- b) Council size of 40

Next meeting 6 pm 19 July Committee Room 2

The meeting ended at 6.54 p.m.

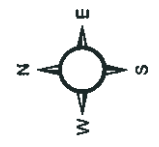
**Chairman:** .....

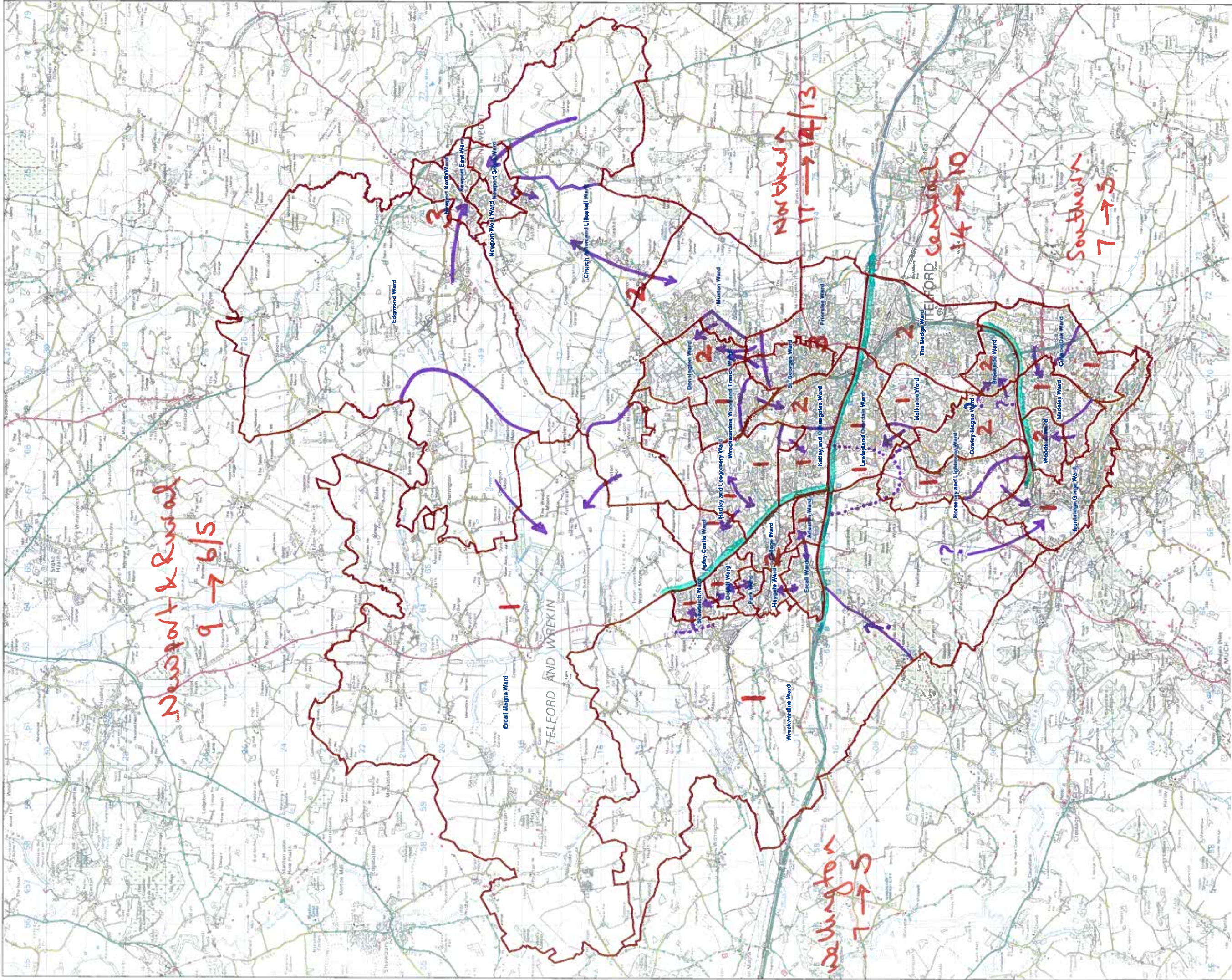
**Date:** .....



- █ "primary boundaries"
- "retained wards"
- transfers

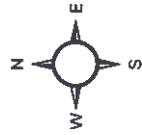
50-51 Member Council





40 (39) Member Council

"primary boundaries"  
transfers



**TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL**

**BOUNDARY REVIEW COMMITTEE 19 JULY 2012**

**FURTHER ELECTORAL REVIEW OF THE BOROUGH**

**REPORT OF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: LAW, DEMOCRACY & PUBLIC PROTECTION**

**PART A) – SUMMARY REPORT**

**1.0 SUMMARY OF REPORT**

- 1.1 This report attempts to translate council sizes of 50 members and 40 members into a warding arrangement for the borough, so that Members can have some ‘feel’ for the degree of change that could result from either council size. It follows a request made by the committee at its meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> June 2012 for such a report.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 The report is for members information at this stage.

**3. SUMMARY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

<b>COMMUNITY IMPACT</b>	Do these proposals contribute to specific Priority Plan objective(s)?	
	No	
	Will the proposals impact on specific groups of people?	
	No	<i>Borough Wide</i>
<b>DELIVERY DATE</b>	<i>Timetable not currently formulated by Local Government</i>	

	<i>Boundary Commission for England</i>	
<b>FINANCIAL/VALUE FOR MONEY IMPACT</b>	No	Costs associated with the electoral review are in the form of officer time and will be met from within existing budgets.  MLB 17.01.12
<b>LEGAL ISSUES</b>	No	The Local Government Boundary Commission for England has a statutory duty to keep under review electoral arrangements at local authority level
<b>OTHER IMPACTS, RISKS &amp; OPPORTUNITIES</b>	Yes	The Local Government Boundary Commission for England has served notice on the council that it will commence a Further Electoral Review in October 2012. The outcome of any review may change the size of the council, number and boundaries of wards, names of wards and allocation of councillors to wards.
<b>IMPACT ON SPECIFIC WARDS</b>	Yes	Borough-wide impact.

## **PART B) – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

### **5.0 COUNCIL SIZE**

5.1 At its last meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> June, the committee requested us to attempt to translate council sizes of 50 members and 40 members into a warding arrangement for the borough, so that Members could have some ‘feel’ for the degree of change that could result from either council size.

5.2 Some of the key statutory criteria that the review will have to follow include:

- electoral fairness: that every councillor represents about the same number of electors within a 10%+/- variance from the electoral quota;
- the need to work within existing parish boundaries, but with a capacity to alter parish ward boundaries so that they are co-terminous with borough ward boundaries;
- using clear and identifiable physical barriers for boundaries: boundaries in the no-man’s land between communities of identity;
- respecting and avoiding partitioning our communities of identity;
- taking into account the electorate in six years time.

5.3 We have looked carefully at the mapping of the borough and a sketch map showing our assumptions will be on display at the meeting. We have attempted to

identify those clear physical barriers that divide the communities within the borough. They include the motorway, dual carriageways, other arterial roads and park and woodland belts. These barriers can be long, but equally they can be quite short; they can be continuous, but equally they can be broken by bridges, underpasses, minor roads, etc. The main barriers are probably the M54 along much of its length, the Queensway in southern Telford and the Whitchurch Road to the east of Wellington. There is also the differential between the rural area with the market towns of Newport and Wellington and the new town area. These physical barriers and differentials help to create groupings of communities across the borough which we consider suggest the following approach to the overall warding of the borough: southern Telford (Madeley and The Gorge), central to western Telford, northern Telford, Wellington and Newport and the rural area.

5.4 We have also attempted to identify those communities of identity that exist at a local level across our borough and these will also be shown on our sketch map. Some of these, like Hollinswood, are readily identified; in others, like Randlay and Stirchley, there is overlap. The tasks of identifying pronounced barriers and differences within the borough and identifying its communities of identity are inherently flawed and subjective.

5.5 We have also attempted to identify likely development in the period 2012-2018, using a consented sites projection that the planning service last updated in August 2011. (This projection is presently being updated for the more detailed work that is currently being undertaken by policy staff for electorate projections for the commission's use in the review.) Some of the sites identified in the projection have already been added to the property database for the electoral register. Using the information in the projection, we are able to estimate that the electorate will increase from 123,790 in July 2012 to 134,094 by late 2018, assuming that the current average ratio of 1.76 electors per property continues. This rate of growth is much faster than has occurred during the past six years (in December 2006 the electorate was 119,234), which in itself suggests a note of caution. That said, however, we have no other statistical basis to work from at this time.

5.6 Members will know that potential development is spread across the borough, but there are many existing borough wards that will experience very little growth during the 2012-18 period. These include southern Telford; the eastern side of central Telford; the central area of northern Telford, and Newport, Wellington and the rural wards. The existing wards that may witness considerable development are likely to be Lawley and Overdale (2,827 estimated additional electors), Priorslee (1,454), Horsehay and Lightmoor (1,439), Hadley and Leegomery (969), Ketley and Oakengates (611) and Church Aston and Lilleshall (458).

5.7 This has formed the considerable background work that then underpins the allocation of a council size to borough wards.

## 6. A 50-MEMBER COUNCIL

6.1 The electoral quota for **2012 is 2,476** and for **2018 is 2,682**.

6.2 The following wards could be retained, because in both 2012 and 2018 their electorates are likely to be within 10%+/- of the electoral quota: Apley Castle, Arleston, Brookside, Dawley Magna, Donnington, Ercall, Haygate, Ketley and Oakengates, Muxton, Shawbirch and Wrockwardine Wood and Trench.

### 6.3 Southern Telford (existing borough wards of Cuckoo Oak, Ironbridge Gorge, Madeley and Woodside)

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2018</b>
<b>Electorate</b>	14911	15248
<b>Councillor allocation</b>	6.02	5.69

6.4 There will be a strong case for a reduction from seven councillors to six in this area. This could be achieved by re-warding Madeley parish into the following wards: Woodside (2 members), Madeley and the northern part of the existing Cuckoo Oak ward (2 members), Sutton Hill (1 member), and Ironbridge Gorge (1 member). The shortfall of electors in the Ironbridge Gorge ward could be made up by transferring Lightmoor parish ward to that borough ward, so that the whole of The Gorge parish formed a single borough ward. The resulting warding arrangement would give wards with electorates that should be within 10%+/- of the electoral quota both in 2012 and in 2018.

6.5 Parish boundaries and communities of identity do not readily allow for the creation of single-member wards for the Woodside or Madeley areas.

### 6.6 Central Telford (existing borough wards of Brookside, Dawley Magna, Horsehay and Lightmoor, Lawley and Overdale, Malinslee and The Nedge)

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2018</b>
<b>Electorate</b>	30,375	35,205
<b>Councillor allocation</b>	12.26	13.13

6.7 There will be a strong case for a reduction from fourteen councillors to thirteen in this area. Dawley Magna and Brookside wards could be retained because in both 2012 and 2018 their electorates will be within 10%+/- of the electoral quota. It may be necessary to retain a three-member The Nedge ward even though it is -8.99% from quota in 2012 and could be -15.59% from quota in 2018, because other

statutory criteria in the balance do not seem to permit other electors to be readily added to this ward. There is a shortfall of electors in the Malinslee ward, but this could be made up by transferring the whole of the Dawley Bank and Lawley Bank areas (1,033 electors in 2012 rising to 1,218 electors in 2018) in the parish of Lawley and Overdale to this ward and adjusting the parish warding arrangement of the parish of Lawley and Overdale.

6.8 The remaining part of Lawley and Overdale parish, excluding that area of Dawley Bank and Lawley bank transferred to the Malinslee ward, has 4,040 electors in 2012 rising to 6,922 by 2018. At Lawley-Newdale, it can be argued that a new community of identity is in the making, bounded by the Horsehay Golf Centre to the south, the M54 to the north, open countryside to the west and Rock Road in the east. This area includes the West parish ward of Lawley and Overdale with 500 electors in 2012 rising to 540 in 2018 and presently in the Wrockwardine borough ward, and the northern part of Dawley Hamlets parish with 366 electors in 2012 rising to 561 in 2018 and presently in the Horsehay and Lightmoor borough ward. As a whole, the new community has an electorate of 2,171 in 2012 rising to 4,758 in 2018: 12.31% short of the quota entitlement to a single member ward in 2012 and 11.30% short of the quota entitlement for a double member ward in 2018. The commission will need to give careful consideration to the more detailed electorate projections that the council is presently preparing so that it can make better-informed judgements than can be made here. For the purposes of this exercise, however, we have assumed that this community could form either a single or a two member ward.

6.9 At this stage, it is possible to envisage a single member Horsehay ward whose electorate would rise from 1,904 in 2012 to 2,899 by 2018: 23.10% below quota initially, rising to 8.09% above quota over the period. If the northern part of Dawley Hamlets parish (with 366 electors rising to 561) was to be included in a new Lawley-based ward, there would be a shortfall of electors. Then there would be a strong case for adding Little Wenlock to Horsehay to form a single member ward with 1,987 electors in 2012 rising to 2,787 by 2018: 19.74% below quota initially, rising to 3.91% above quota over the period. In our assessment from this point onwards, we have assumed that Little Wenlock forms part of the warding arrangement for the west-centre of the borough.

6.10 Meanwhile, the remainder of Lawley and Overdale parish to the east of Rock Road and comprising Overdale, The Rock and Old Park has an electorate of 2,193 in 2012 rising to 2,683 in 2018: 11.43% below quota in 2012 rising to the quota for 2018, which could create an appropriate single-member ward.

6.11 Our suggestions for this area of west-central Telford cannot be conclusive, not least because the electorate of this area has the potential to increase by some 4,000 over the period 2012-2018, and parish boundaries also further complicate matters. Thus, for example, the northern part of Dawley Hamlets parish may have to remain

in a Horsehay ward simply because its 561 electors in 2018 would be unlikely to provide the basis of an appropriate parish ward in a parish which could have 6,089 electors by that time.

6.12 Parish boundaries, communities of identity and the distribution of electors do not provide the building blocks – about 2,500 to 2,700 electors – for the creation of single-member wards for much of this area. For example, in Hollinswood and Randlay parish the building blocks are Hollinswood (2,152 electors) and Randlay (2,129), and in Stirchley and Brookside parish they are Randlay (404), Stirchley (part)(2,070), Stirchley (part)(1,429), Brookside (part)(2,999) and Brookside (part)(558).

6.13 Northern Telford (existing borough wards of Apley Castle, Donnington, Hadley and Leegomery, Ketley and Oakengates, Muxton, Priorslee, St Georges, Wrockwardine Wood and Trench)

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2018</b>
<b>Electorate</b>	42,031	45,834
<b>Councillor allocation</b>	16.97	17.09

6.14 There will be a strong case for the retention of the existing seventeen councillors in this area. Indeed, Apley Castle, Donnington, Ketley and Oakengates, Muxton and Wrockwardine Wood and Trench wards could all be retained, because in both 2012 and 2018 their electorates could be within 10%+/- of the electoral quota.

6.15 The Priorslee and St Georges wards are -4.06% and -3.70% respectively from the 2012 quota. However, further development in each ward is likely to lead to an imbalance of +15.68% from the quota for Priorslee and -11.09% from the quota for St Georges by 2018. An adjustment of the ward boundary between the Priorslee and St Georges wards could address this problem. For instance, transferring Snedshill area and the whole of the East parish ward of Wrockwardine Wood and Trench Parish to the St Georges Ward (399 electors in 2012 rising to 509 by 2018), would bring the Priorslee ward to +6.19% and the St Georges ward to -1.60% from the electoral quota in 2018. This would require the same alteration to the parish warding arrangement to maintain coterminosity. It would also lead to Wrockwardine Wood and Trench Parish Council having two parish wards instead of the present three.

6.16 The Hadley and Leegomery ward is +8.72% from the 2012 electoral quota, and this will rise to +12.42% by 2018 with further development. This imbalance could be addressed by transferring the Beveley parish ward of the parish of Ketley to the Ketley and Oakengates ward (102 electors in 2012 rising to 562 by 2018). This

would bring the Hadley and Leegomery ward to +5.41% and the Ketley and Oakengates ward to +5.15% from the electoral quota in 2018.

6.17 Once again, parish boundaries, communities of identity and the distribution of electors do not provide the building blocks for the creation of single-member wards in Donnington, Muxton, Priorslee, St Georges or Wrockwardine Wood and Trench. In Ketley and Oakengates, three separate single-member wards – Ketley, Ketley Bank and Oakengates – might be an option, although Ketley and Ketley Bank could initially be outside the 10%+/- variance to the electoral quota. Similarly, in Hadley and Leegomery, three separate single-member wards mirroring the parish wards of Hadley Castle, Hadley Manor and Leegomery might be an option, although a Hadley Manor ward might fall beyond the 10%+ variance to the quota by 2018.

6.18 Wellington (existing borough wards of Arleston, College, Dothill, Ercall, Haygate, Park, and Shawbirch)

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2018</b>
<b>Electorate</b>	16,351	17,109
<b>Councillor allocation</b>	6.60	6.38

6.19 There will be a shortfall of electors in Wellington to allow an entitlement to a full seven councillors. It will be possible to argue a case for reducing the number of councillors in Wellington to six, and this could be achieved by partitioning the existing Park ward and allocating areas to the College, Dothill and Haygate wards. In turn further adjustments could be made, for example, transferring the northern part of the Dothill ward to the Shawbirch ward or transferring the southern part of the Haygate ward to the Ercall ward, in an attempt to level any remaining imbalances. That would lead to something near to the following scenario:

<b>Ward</b>	<b>Electorate 2012</b>	<b>%age variance from quota (2476)</b>	<b>Electorate 2018</b>	<b>%age variance from quota (2682)</b>
Arleston	2548	+2.91	2710	+1.08
College	2680	+8.23	2680	0
Dothill	2658	+7.35	2681	0
Ercall	2754	+11.23	3046	+13.57
Haygate	2819	+13.85	3100	+15.59
Shawbirch	2645	+6.83	2645	-1.38

This approach would leave two wards well above the 10% variance from the electoral quota in both 2012 and 2018, and further transfers of streets would be required to balance this position.

6.20 We have considered whether the shortfall in Wellington could be made up by transferring the 2,281 electors in the closely adjoining communities of Admaston and Shawbirch in the parish of Wrockwardine to a Wellington arrangement. There are arguably two communities of identity in this area: Admaston and Shawbirch, with the community of Shawbirch partitioned by the parish boundary. If all these electors were added to Wellington they would only benefit the north of the parish, and would raise the electorate of the proposed Shawbirch ward to a total of 4,926 electors in both 2012 and 2018, with a clear entitlement to two councillors: 0.05% below quota in 2012 and 8.17% below quota in 2018.

6.21 Such arrangements would give Wellington with Admaston five single-member wards and one two-member ward. It would also require an alteration of the parish warding arrangement in Wellington and the creation of a parish warding arrangement in Wrockwardine. The following table shows that the shortfall in the councillor entitlement of Wellington is changed into a surplus by this addition and that may not be any more satisfactory than the outcome shown in the table in paragraph 6.18.

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2018</b>
<b>Electorate</b>	18,632	19,390
<b>Councillor allocation</b>	7.53	7.23

6.22 Newport and the predominantly rural wards (existing borough wards of Church Aston and Lilleshall, Edgmond, Er call Magna, Newport East, Newport North, Newport South, Newport West and Wrockwardine)

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2018</b>
<b>Electorate</b>	20,122	20,698
<b>Councillor allocation</b>	8.12	7.72

6.23 There will be a strong case for a reduction from nine councillors to eight in this area. If Admaston, Shawbirch (part), Little Wenlock and the West parish ward of Lawley and Overdale (3,230 electors in 2012 and 3,270 in 2018) were also removed from the consideration of this area, the following entitlements would arise.

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2018</b>
<b>Electorate</b>	16,892	17,428
<b>Councillor allocation</b>	6.82	6.50

6.24 The problems that exist across this area are shown in the following table.

<b>Existing</b>	<b>Electorate</b>	<b>%age variance</b>	<b>Electorate</b>	<b>%age variance</b>
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<b><i>borough ward</i></b>	<b><i>2012</i></b>	<b><i>from quota (2476)</i></b>	<b><i>2018</i></b>	<b><i>from quota (2682)</i></b>
Church Aston & Lilleshall	2578	+4.12	3036	+13.20
Edgmond	2110	-14.78	2110	-21.33
Ercall Magna	2360	-4.68	2360	-12.01
Newport East	1982	-19.95	1982	-26.10
Newport North	2365	-4.48	2365	-11.82
Newport South	2042	-17.53	2042	-23.86
Newport West	2092	-15.51	2170	-19.09
Wrockwardine	4593	-7.25	4635	-13.63

6.25 The following table suggests a possible grouping of rural parishes to provide wards that would meet the quota in the rural area.

<b><i>Possible borough ward (parishes of)</i></b>	<b><i>Electorate 2012</i></b>	<b><i>%age variance from quota (2476)</i></b>	<b><i>Electorate 2018</i></b>	<b><i>%age variance from quota (2682)</i></b>
Church Aston, Lilleshall, Preston and Kynnersley	2488	+0.05	2624	-2.16
Edgmond, Eyton, Tibberton & Cherrington and Waters Upton	2457	-0.77	2457	-8.40
Ercall Magna, Rodington and the remainder of Wrockwardine	2539	+2.54	2539	-5.33

6.26 Newport has an electorate of 8,481 in 2012 leaving it 1,423 electors short of an entitlement to four councillors. By 2018 its electorate will be 8,559 leaving it 2,169 electors short of the entitlement. The parishes of Chetwynd with 377 electors in 2012 and 2018 and Chetwynd Aston and Woodcote with 466 electors in 2012 rising to 888 electors in 2018 could be added to Newport wards to address this shortfall, and an arrangement might be possible where four wards would come within, but only just within, the 10%- variance. Members will be aware of the difficulties of predicting future development in this area, and the assumptions that have been used here may be erroneous.

### Conclusion

6.27 Members will note that the arrangements outlined above could result in a 50-51 member council, dependent in particular on how the commission wanted to proceed with regard to warding the Lawley community and the warding of Newport and Wellington.

## 7. A 40-MEMBER COUNCIL

7.1 The electoral quota for **2012 is 3,095** and for **2018 is 3,352**.

7.2 None of the existing borough wards is likely to be within 10% variance from the electoral quotas in both 2012 and 2018, although Church Aston and Lilleshall, Lawley and Overdale and Priorslee wards could come within this variance by 2018.

7.3 Southern Telford (existing borough wards of Cuckoo Oak, Ironbridge Gorge, Madeley and Woodside)

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2018</b>
<b>Electorate</b>	14911	15248
<b>Councillor allocation</b>	4.82	4.55

7.4 The entitlement of this area would be less than five councillors. The entitlement of the large parish of Madeley is four. This could be achieved by re-warding Madeley parish into the following wards: Woodside and Glendenning Way (2 members), Madeley and the area north of Queen Street (1 member) and Sutton Hill and the area south of Queen Street (1 member). The resulting wards could remain within 10%+/- of the electoral quota both in 2012 and in 2018.

7.5 Again, it will be necessary to make up the shortfall of electors in the parish of The Gorge. This could be made up by transferring Lightmoor parish ward and Little Wenlock to the existing borough ward to create a ward that should be within 10% variance of the electoral quota both in 2012 and in 2018.

7.6 Central Telford (existing borough wards of Brookside, Dawley Magna, Horsehay and Lightmoor, Lawley and Overdale, Malinslee and The Nedge)

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2018</b>
<b>Electorate</b>	30,375	35,205
<b>Councillor allocation</b>	9.81	10.50

7.7 The entitlement of this area would be about ten councillors.

7.8 Parish boundaries and communities of identity in this area do not lend themselves readily to the building blocks of about 3,200 electors that are required for a forty-member council

7.9 The existing The Nedge ward would fall within the 10%+/- variance from the quota and would be entitled to two members. Meanwhile, however, the existing Dawley Magna ward would have about 1,000 too many electors for a two-member ward, while the existing Brookside ward would have a shortfall of about 1,000 electors. An adjustment to redress this could be made from either the Dawley Hamlets or Great Dawley parishes, which would also need to be reflected in the parish's warding arrangement.

7.10 The existing Malinslee ward would be about 2,000 electors short of the quota for a two member ward and about 1,000 electors in surplus for a single member ward. In terms of communities of identity, this imbalance is probably best addressed by transferring the 900 electors of Dawley Bank out of the existing ward, leaving Malinslee as a single-member ward. Such a settlement would leave the parish of Great Dawley with a new three- or four-parish ward electoral arrangement.

7.11 The resolution of this area is again complicated by the extensive development in Horsehay-Lightmoor, Newdale and Old Park. The electorate of this area could increase by some 4,000 between 2012 and 2018. It is possible to envisage the formation of three single-member wards in this area, but these may be well below quota initially or well above it by 2018. A possible grouping into wards might be (1) Overdale, The Rock, Old Park and Lawley Bank, (2) Lawley, Lawley Common and Newdale, and (3) Lightmoor north, Horsehay and Dawley Bank.

7.12 Northern Telford (existing borough wards of Apley Castle, Donnington, Hadley and Leegomery, Ketley and Oakengates, Muxton, Priorslee, St Georges, Wrockwardine Wood and Trench)

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2018</b>
<b>Electorate</b>	42,031	45,834
<b>Councillor allocation</b>	13.58	13.67

7.13 This area will have an entitlement to just under 14 councillors, reduced from the existing seventeen.

7.14 The existing parish areas that lend themselves readily to the electoral quotas include Hadley and Leegomery, the Trench ward of Wrockwardine Wood and Trench, Ketley, Oakengates and St Georges and Priorslee.

7.15 The whole of Hadley and Leegomery parish (including Apley Castle) would have an entitlement to about three councillors, and three wards could be created: Apley Castle-Leegomery, Hadley Castle-Leegomery and southern Hadley, which would all probably fall within the 10%+/- variance both in 2012 and 2018. Likewise, the existing Trench ward of Wrockwardine Wood and Trench parish would lend itself

to the formation of a single-member ward, as would the whole of Ketley parish, and it is likely that they would remain within the 10%+/- variance in 2012 and 2018. Oakengates parish could provide a two-member ward; it would be within the 10%+/- variance in 2012, but would probably very slightly exceed it by 2018. Taken together, the St Georges and Priorslee parish could provide a three-member ward, whose electorate both in 2012 and 2018 would be likely to remain within the 10%+/- variance. However, the two main communities in this parish do not lend themselves readily to either two-member or single member wards within the quota figures. Finally, Donnington (north of Donnington Wood way, but excluding The Humbers), if taken together with the southern part of Wrockwardine Wood and Trench (the Wrockwardine Wood and East wards of that parish) have 6,623 electors in 2012 and 2018 and could therefore form a two-member ward.

7.16 This leaves Muxton (excluding Donnington Wood) and The Humbers which may be considered along with Lilleshall, all in the same parish of Lilleshall, Donnington and Muxton. The building blocks of this area do not lend themselves to the formation of single member wards, and, with 5,226 electors in 2012 and 5,724 electors by 2018, this overall area is also about 1,000 electors short of the quota that would be required for a two-member ward. That shortfall could be made up by the addition of Church Aston parish (1074 electors in 2012 and 2018) to this area.

7.17 Wellington (existing borough wards of Arleston, College, Dothill, Ercall, Haygate, Park, and Shawbirch)

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2018</b>
<b>Electorate</b>	16,351	17,109
<b>Councillor allocation</b>	5.28	5.10

7.18 In a forty-member council, Wellington will have an entitlement to 5 borough councillors. A possible warding arrangement could see an enlargement of the Shawbirch, Dothill and Arleston wards, and the creation of a two-member ward or two single-member wards covering the central part of the town.

7.19 In the following assessment for the rural area of the borough, it is suggested that the 674 electors of the Shawbirch part of Wrockwardine parish might also be included in the Wellington arrangement. However, their inclusion will make it difficult to create five borough wards that would all be within the 10%+/- variance from the electoral quota.

7.10 Newport and the predominantly rural wards (existing borough wards of Church Aston and Lilleshall, Edgmond, Ercall Magna, Newport East, Newport North, Newport South, Newport West and Wrockwardine)

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2018</b>
<b>Electorate</b>	20,122	20,698
<b>Councillor allocation</b>	6.5	6.17

7.11 There will be a strong case for a reduction from nine councillors to six in this area.

7.12 For an entitlement to three councillors, the parish of Newport has a shortfall of about 1,900 electors. This shortfall could be made up by adding any combination of the following parishes to a Newport group of three borough wards: Church Aston (1074 electors in 2012 and 2018), or Edmond (1090 electors in 2012 and 2018), or Chetwynd (377 electors in 2012 and 2018) or Chetwynd Aston and Woodcote (466 electors in 2012 and 888 in 2018).

7.13 Bringing together the parishes of Tibberton and Cherrington, Kynnersley, Preston upon the Weald Moors, Eyton upon the Weald Moors and Ercall Magna would provide an electorate of 3,101 which would fall within the quota variance of 10%+/- in 2012 and 2018 for a single-member ward. Likewise, bringing together Rodington, Wrockwardine village, Admaston and Little Wenlock would give an electorate of 3,388 which would also fall within the quota variance for a single-member ward. This arrangement would not include the Shawbirch part of Wrockwardine parish (674 electors), and it would require a parish warding arrangement for that presently unwarded parish.

7.14 The final councillor entitlement of this area would be made up by the allocations affecting the Shawbirch part of Wrockwardine parish, Lilleshall and Church Aston.

### Conclusion

7.15. Members will note that the arrangements outlined above could result in a 39-40 member council, dependent in particular on how the commission wanted to proceed with regard to warding in the Lawley and Overdale – Horsehay areas.

Documents and information used in the preparation of this report can be found on the website of the Local Government Boundary Commission for England at [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk) Of particular relevance is the Commission's guidance: *Electoral reviews: technical guidance* (May 2011). Ward maps and electorates (at 1 December 2011) can be found at our elections website at [www.telford.gov.uk/elections](http://www.telford.gov.uk/elections)

**Report prepared by Melvin Humphreys, Electoral Services Team Leader, telephone 01952 383202**

Ward	Electorate July 2012	Cllrs	Current Ratio	Difference to 3095	%age Variance	Add Development	Electorate 2018	Cllrs	Current Ratio	Difference to 3352	%age Variance
Apley Castle	2291	1	2291	-804	-25.98%	216	2507	1	2507	-845	-25.21%
Arlleston	2548	1	2548	-547	-17.67%	162	2710	1	2710	-642	-19.15%
Brookside	4990	2	2495	-600	-19.39%	92	5082	2	2541	-811	-24.19%
Church Aston& Lilleshall	2578	1	2578	-517	-16.70%	458	3036	1	3036	-316	-9.43%
College	2284	1	2284	-811	-26.20%	0	2284	1	2284	-1068	-31.86%
Cuckoo OaK	4117	2	2059	-1037	-33.49%	38	4155	2	2078	-1275	-38.02%
Dawley Magna	7266	3	2422	-673	-21.74%	181	7447	3	2482	-870	-25.94%
Donnington	4915	2	2458	-638	-20.60%	181	5096	2	2548	-804	-23.99%
Dothill	2008	1	2008	-1087	-35.12%	23	2031	1	2031	-1321	-39.41%
Edgmond	2110	1	2110	-985	-31.83%	0	2110	1	2110	-1242	-37.05%
Ercall	2554	1	2554	-541	-17.48%	292	2846	1	2846	-506	-15.10%
Ercall Magna	2360	1	2360	-735	-23.75%	0	2360	1	2360	-992	-29.59%
Hadley & Leegomery	8076	3	2692	-403	-13.02%	969	9045	3	3015	-337	-10.05%
Haygate	2462	1	2462	-633	-20.45%	281	2743	1	2743	-609	-18.17%
Horsehay & Lightmoor	3337	2	1669	-1427	-46.09%	1439	4776	2	2388	-964	-28.76%
Ironbridge Gorge	2073	1	2073	-1022	-33.02%	0	2073	1	2073	-1279	-38.16%
Ketley & Oakengates	7289	3	2430	-665	-21.50%	611	7900	3	2633	-719	-21.44%
Lawley & Overdale	3678	2	1839	-1256	-40.58%	2827	6505	2	3253	-100	-2.97%
Madeley	4247	2	2124	-972	-31.39%	0	4247	2	2124	-1229	-36.65%
Malinslee	4344	2	2172	-923	-29.82%	259	4603	2	2302	-1051	-31.34%
Muxton	4844	2	2422	-673	-21.74%	372	5216	2	2608	-744	-22.20%
Newport East	1982	1	1982	-1113	-35.96%	0	1982	1	1982	-1370	-40.87%
Newport North	2365	1	2365	-730	-23.59%	0	2365	1	2365	-987	-29.45%
Newport South	2042	1	2042	-1053	-34.02%	0	2042	1	2042	-1310	-39.08%
Newport West	2092	1	2092	-1003	-32.41%	78	2170	1	2170	-1182	-35.26%
Park	2050	1	2050	-1045	-33.76%	0	2050	1	2050	-1302	-38.84%
Priorslee	4751	2	2376	-720	-23.25%	1454	6205	2	3103	-250	-7.44%
Shawbirch	2445	1	2445	-650	-21.00%	0	2445	1	2445	-907	-27.06%
St Georges	4769	2	2385	-711	-22.96%	0	4769	2	2385	-968	-28.86%
The Nedge	6760	3	2253	-842	-27.19%	32	6792	3	2264	-1088	-32.46%
Woodside	4474	2	2237	-858	-27.72%	299	4773	2	2387	-966	-28.80%
Wrockwardine	4593	2	2297	-799	-25.80%	40	4633	2	2317	-1036	-30.89%
Wrockwardine Wood & Trer	5096	2	2548	-547	-17.67%	0	5096	2	2548	-804	-23.99%

**Borough total**

**123790**

**54**

**2292**

**40 member**

**Borough electoral quota at 2 July 2012 = 3095**

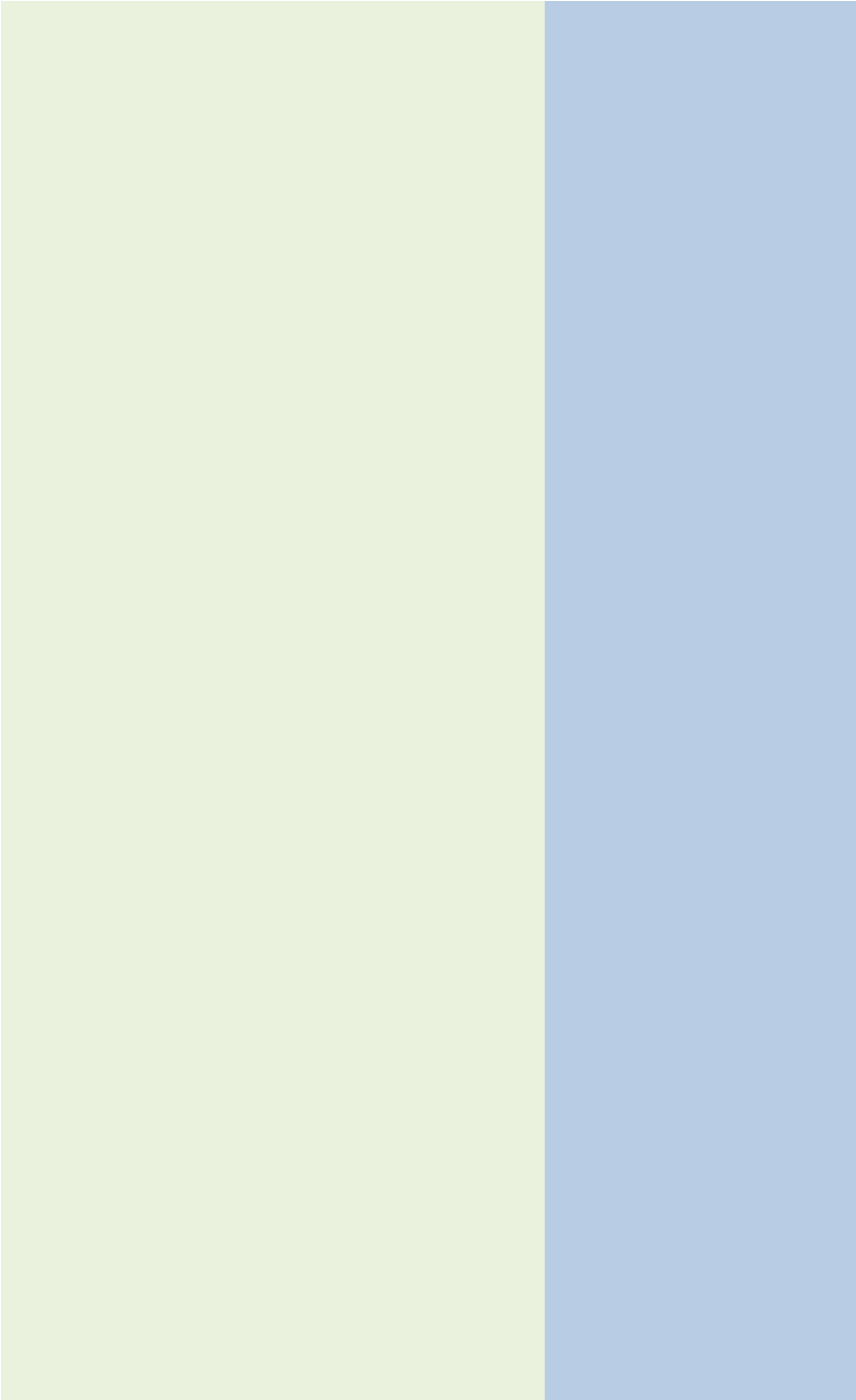
**40 member**

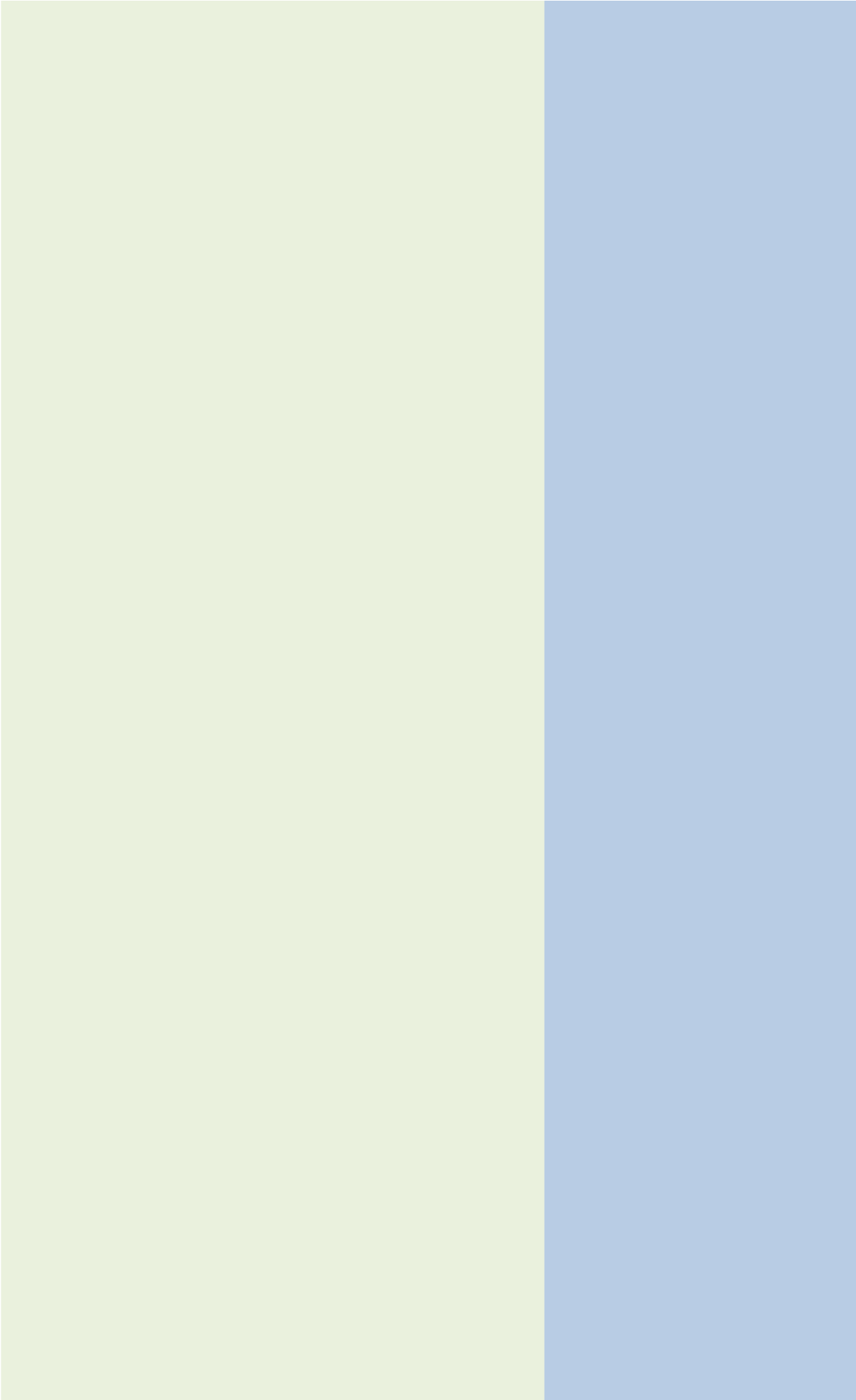
**Borough electoral quota at 2018 = 3352**

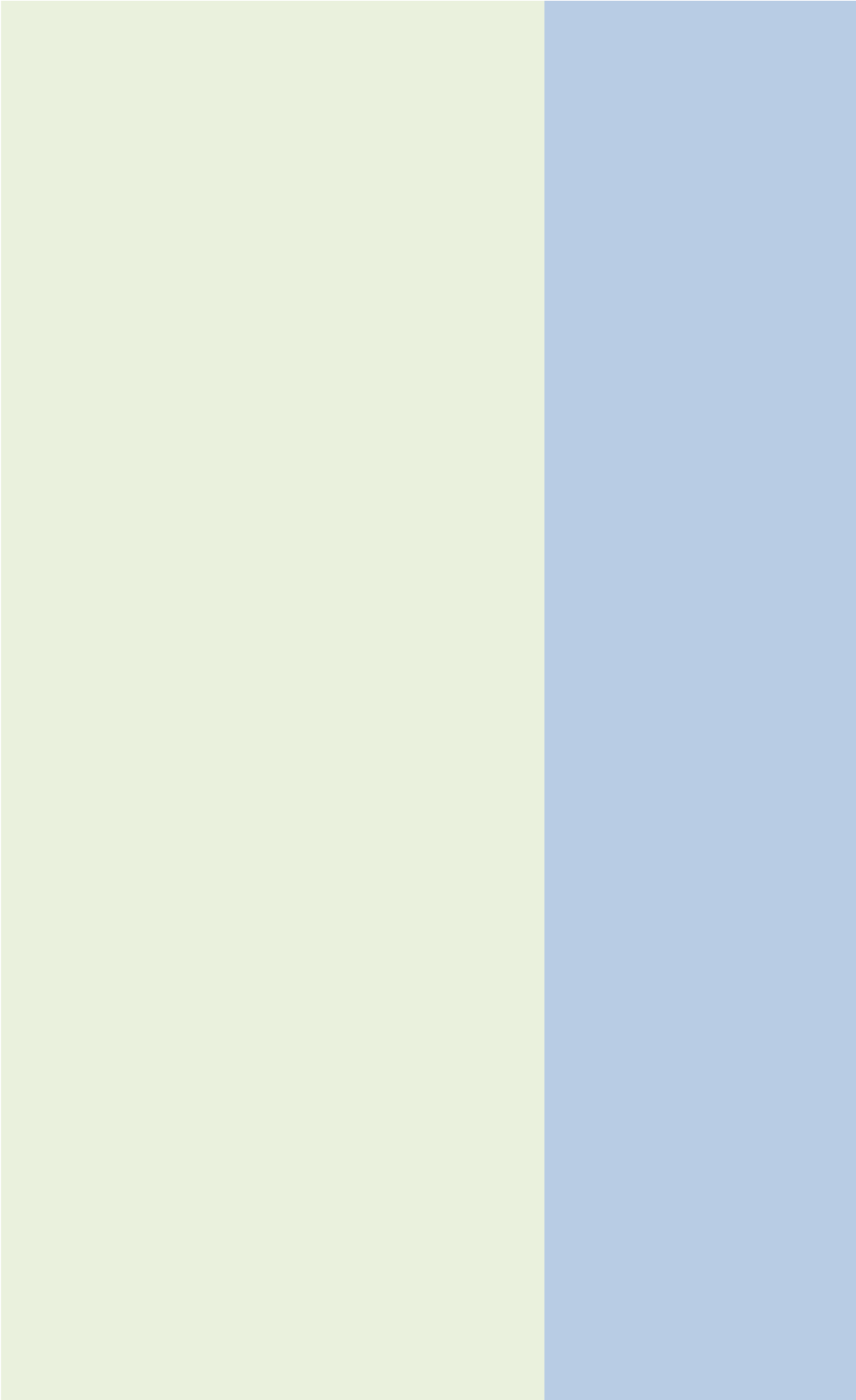
Ward	Electorate July 2012	Cllrs	Current Ratio	Difference to 2476	%age Variance	Add Developmen	Electorate 2018	Cllrs	Current Ratio	Difference to 2682	%age Variance
Apley Castle	2291	1	2291	-185	-7.47%	216	2507	1	2507	-175	-6.52%
Arlleston	2548	1	2548	72	2.91%	162	2710	1	2710	28	1.04%
Brookside	4990	2	2495	19	0.77%	92	5082	2	2541	-141	-5.26%
Church Aston& Lilleshall	2578	1	2578	102	4.12%	458	3036	1	3036	354	13.20%
College	2284	1	2284	-192	-7.75%	0	2284	1	2284	-398	-14.84%
Cuckoo OaK	4117	2	2059	-418	-16.86%	38	4155	2	2078	-605	-22.54%
Dawley Magna	7266	3	2422	-54	-2.18%	181	7447	3	2482	-200	-7.44%
Donnington	4915	2	2458	-19	-0.75%	181	5096	2	2548	-134	-5.00%
Dothill	2008	1	2008	-468	-18.90%	23	2031	1	2031	-651	-24.27%
Edgmond	2110	1	2110	-366	-14.78%	0	2110	1	2110	-572	-21.33%
Ercall	2554	1	2554	78	3.15%	292	2846	1	2846	164	6.11%
Ercall Magna	2360	1	2360	-116	-4.68%	0	2360	1	2360	-322	-12.01%
Hadley & Leegomery	8076	3	2692	216	8.72%	969	9045	3	3015	333	12.42%
Haygate	2462	1	2462	-14	-0.57%	281	2743	1	2743	61	2.27%
Horsehay & Lightmoor	3337	2	1669	-808	-32.61%	1439	4776	2	2388	-294	-10.96%
Ironbridge Gorge	2073	1	2073	-403	-16.28%	0	2073	1	2073	-609	-22.71%
Ketley & Oakengates	7289	3	2430	-46	-1.87%	611	7900	3	2633	-49	-1.81%
Lawley & Overdale	3678	2	1839	-637	-25.73%	2827	6505	2	3253	571	21.27%
Madeley	4247	2	2124	-353	-14.24%	0	4247	2	2124	-559	-20.82%
Malinslee	4344	2	2172	-304	-12.28%	259	4603	2	2302	-381	-14.19%
Muxton	4844	2	2422	-54	-2.18%	372	5216	2	2608	-74	-2.76%
Newport East	1982	1	1982	-494	-19.95%	0	1982	1	1982	-700	-26.10%
Newport North	2365	1	2365	-111	-4.48%	0	2365	1	2365	-317	-11.82%
Newport South	2042	1	2042	-434	-17.53%	0	2042	1	2042	-640	-23.86%
Newport West	2092	1	2092	-384	-15.51%	78	2170	1	2170	-512	-19.09%
Park	2050	1	2050	-426	-17.21%	0	2050	1	2050	-632	-23.56%
Priorslee	4751	2	2376	-101	-4.06%	1454	6205	2	3103	421	15.68%
Shawbirch	2445	1	2445	-31	-1.25%	0	2445	1	2445	-237	-8.84%
St Georges	4769	2	2385	-92	-3.70%	0	4769	2	2385	-298	-11.09%
The Nedge	6760	3	2253	-223	-8.99%	32	6792	3	2264	-418	-15.59%
Woodside	4474	2	2237	-239	-9.65%	299	4773	2	2387	-296	-11.02%
Wrockwardine	4593	2	2297	-180	-7.25%	40	4633	2	2317	-366	-13.63%
Wrockwardine Wood & Trer	5096	2	2548	72	2.91%	0	5096	2	2548	-134	-5.00%
<b>Borough total</b>	<b>123790</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>2292</b>				<b>134094</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>2483</b>		

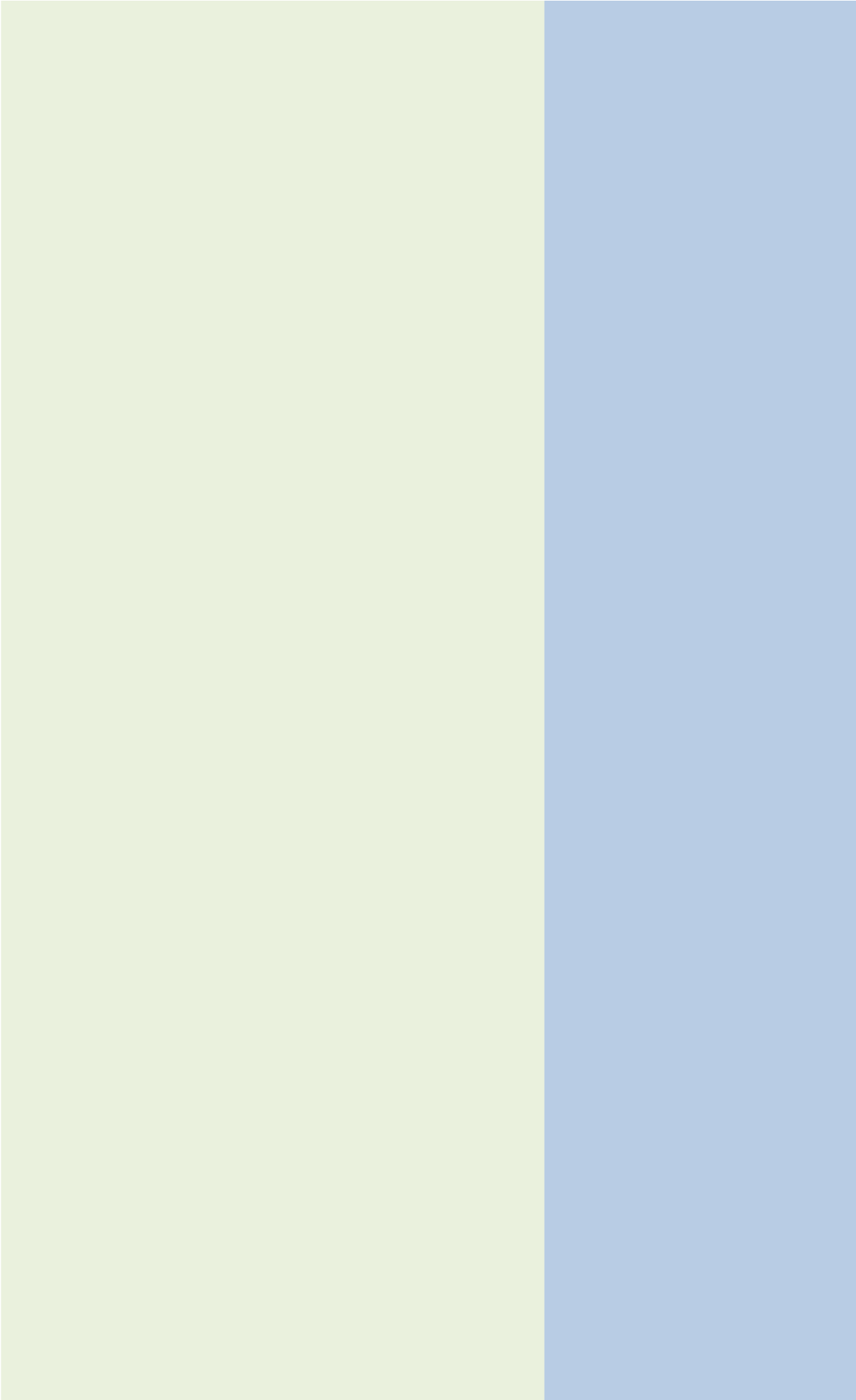
50 member council electoral quota at 2 July 2012 = 2476

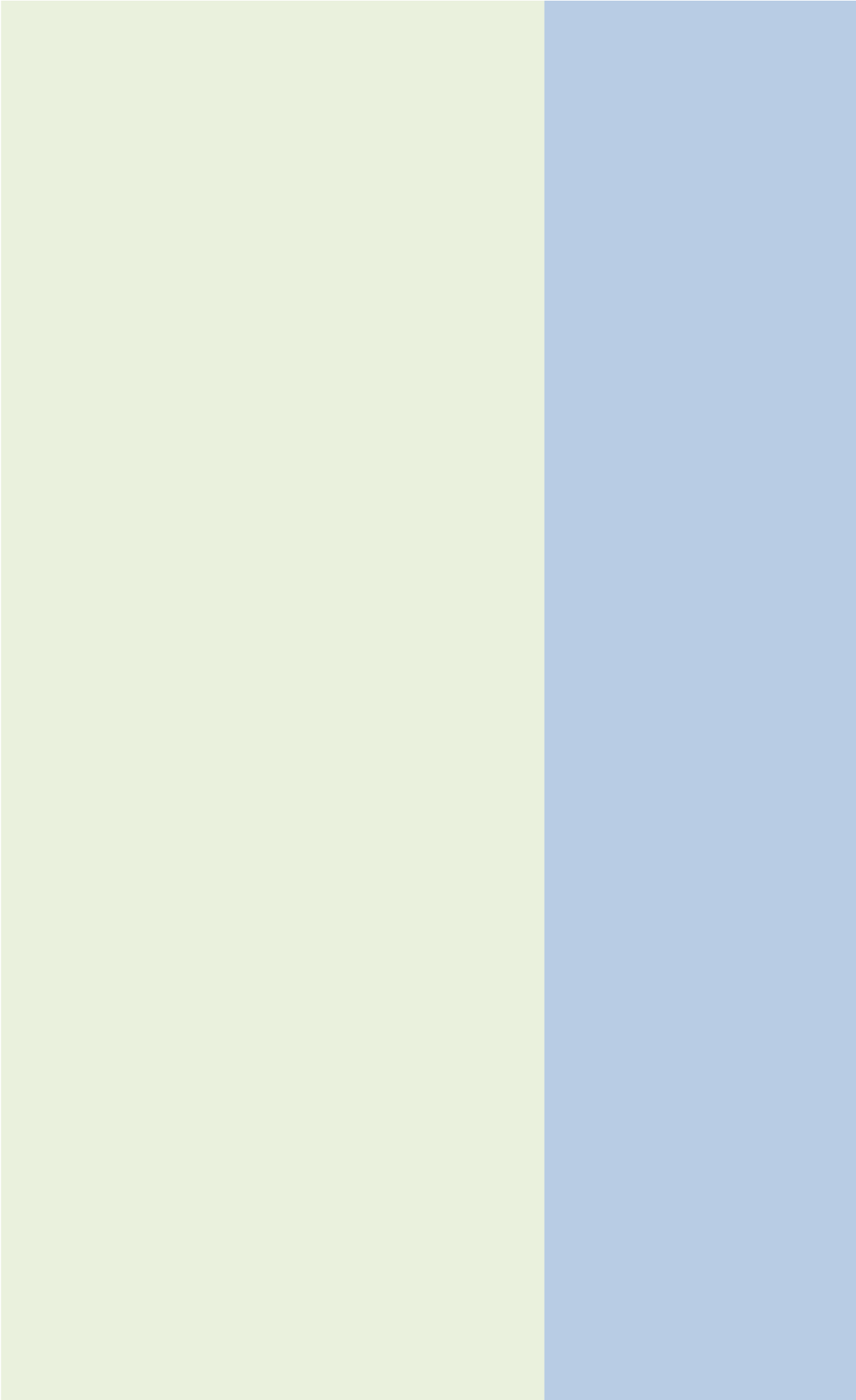
50 member council electoral quota at 2018 = 2682

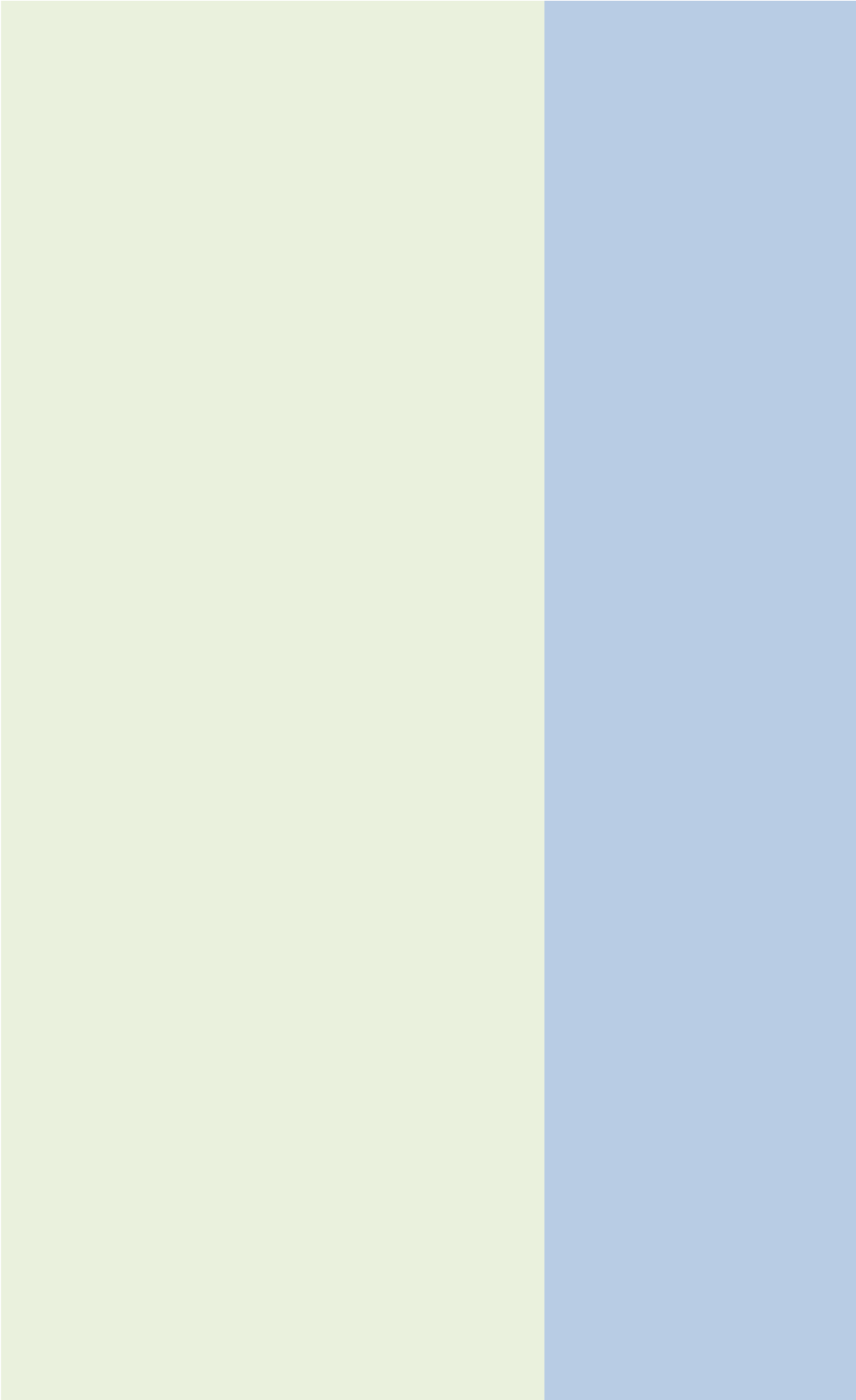


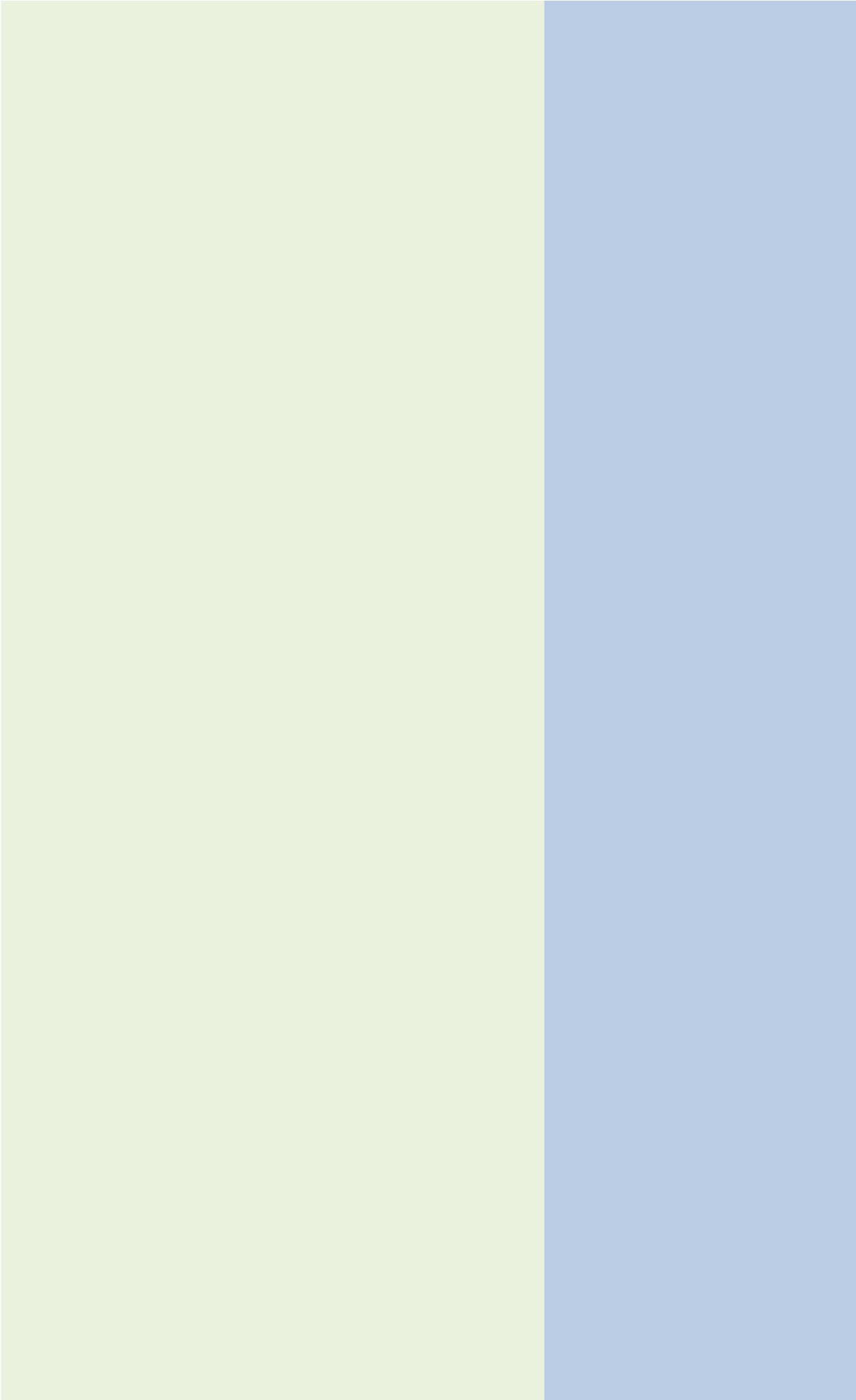


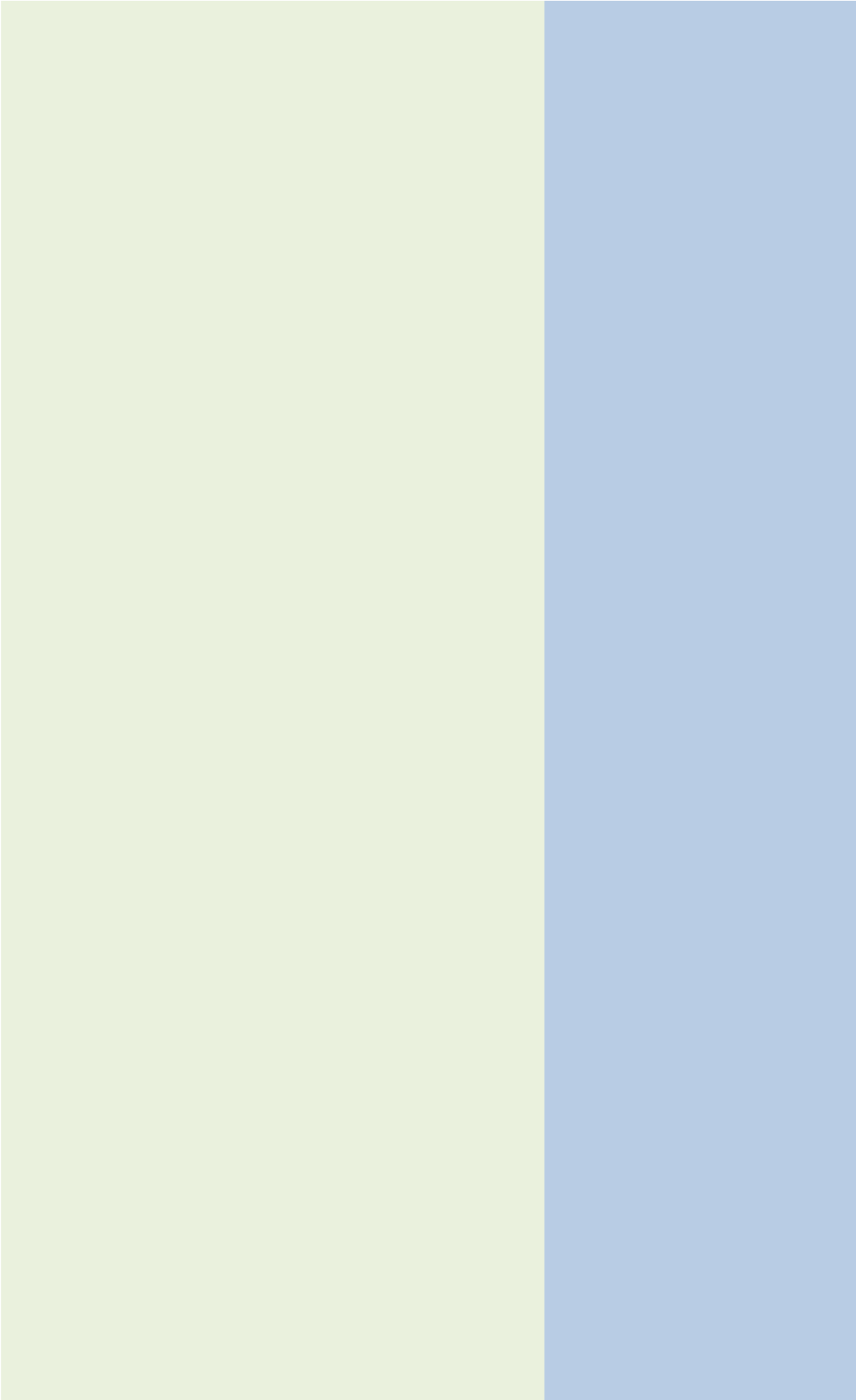


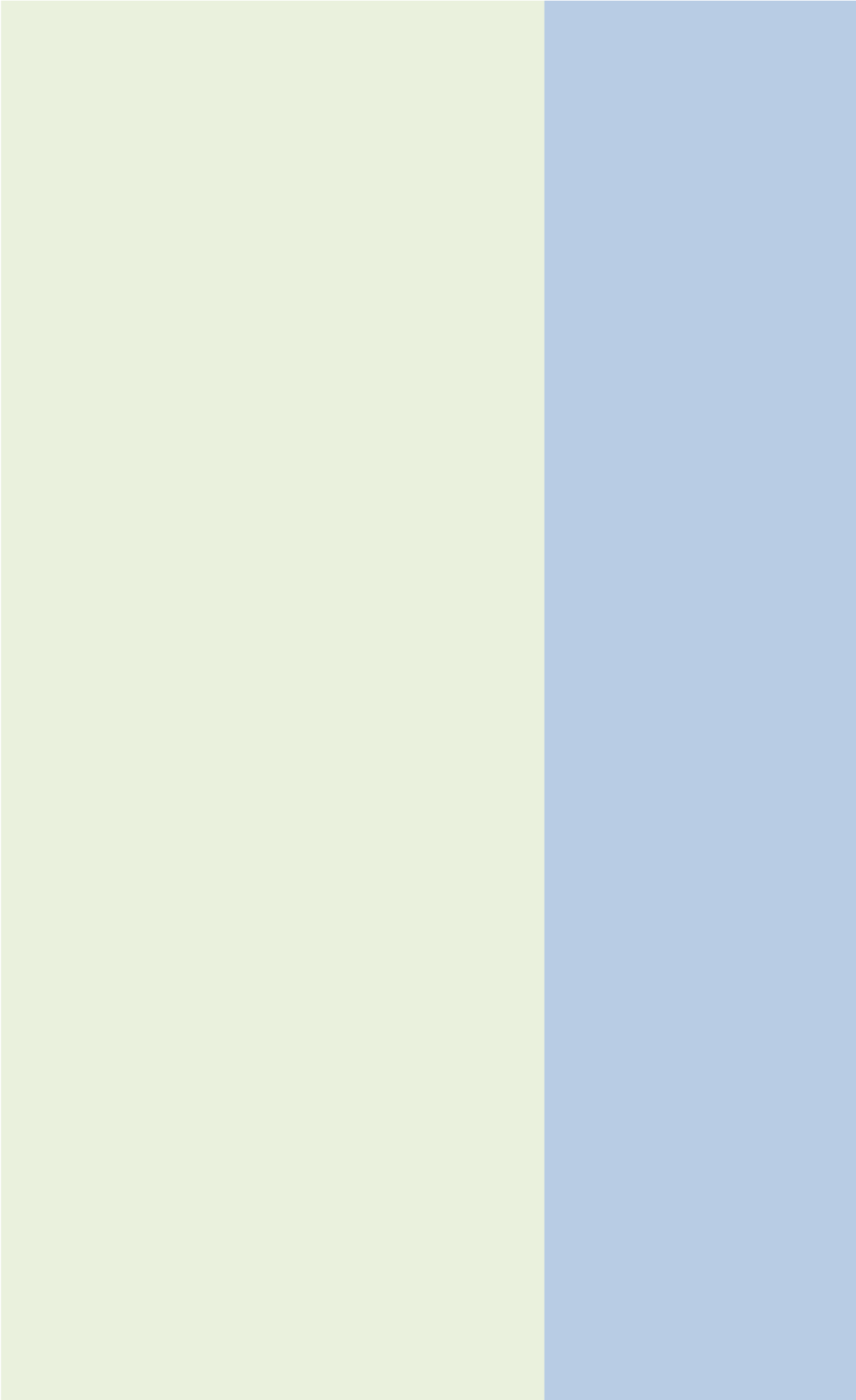


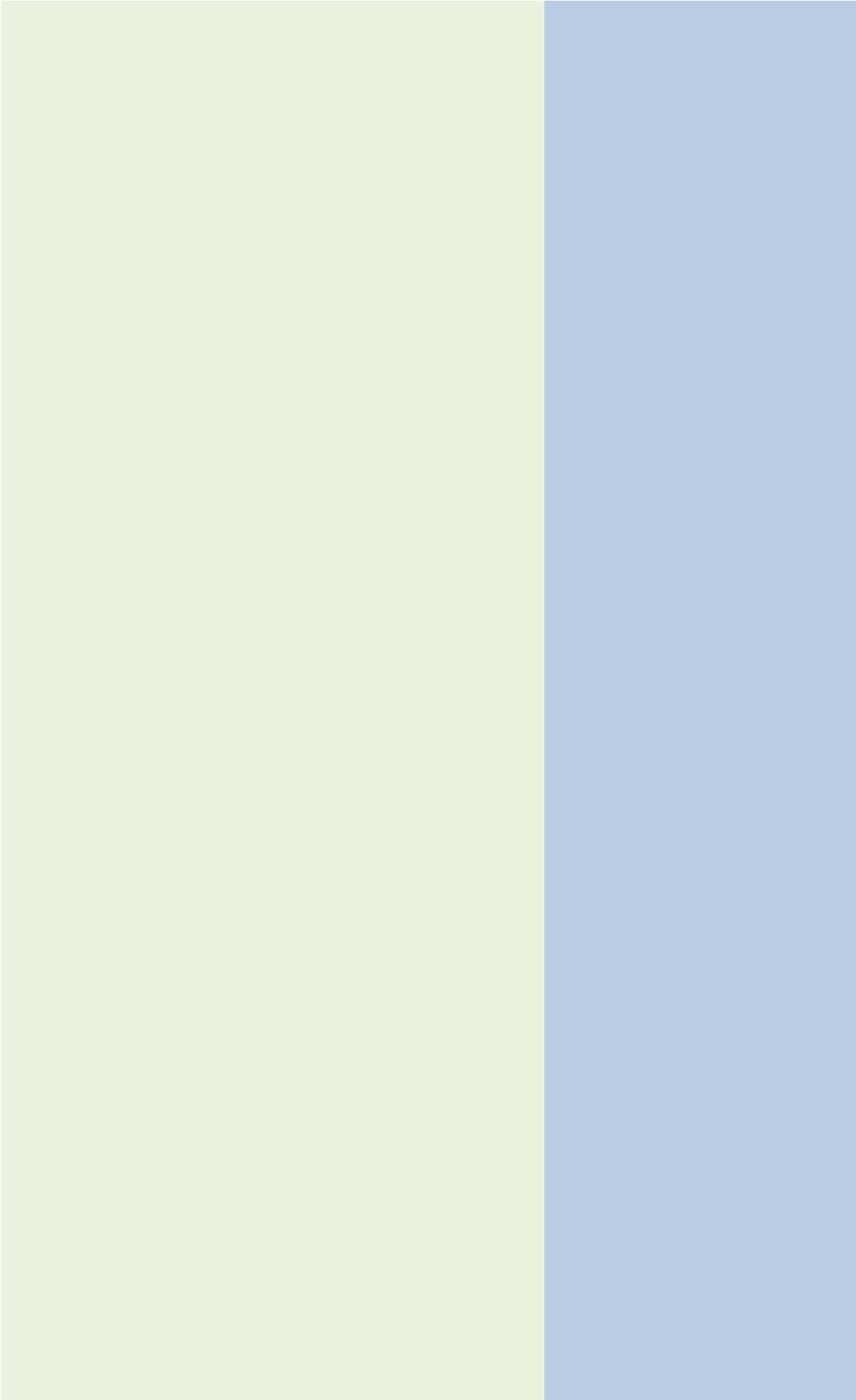


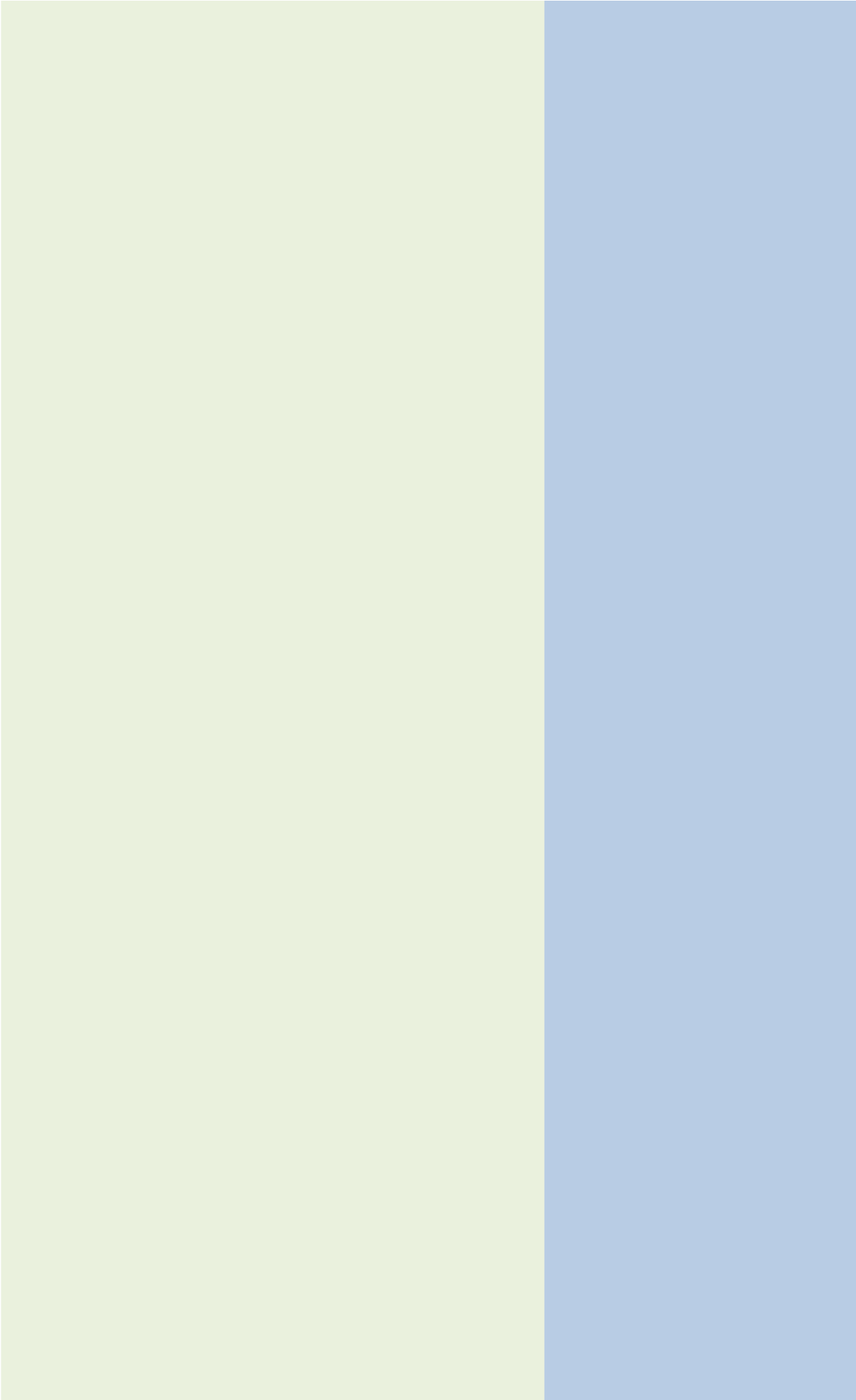


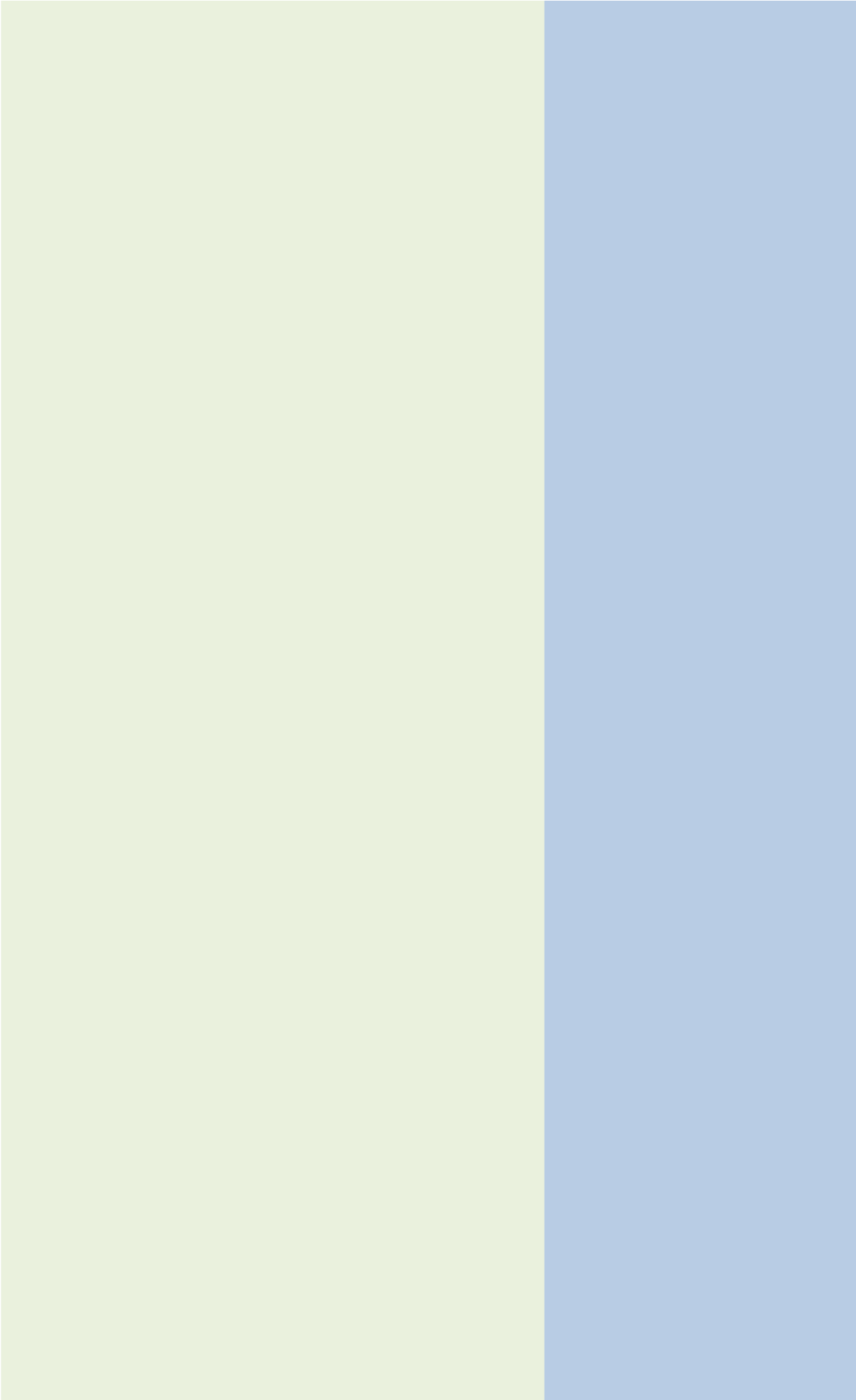


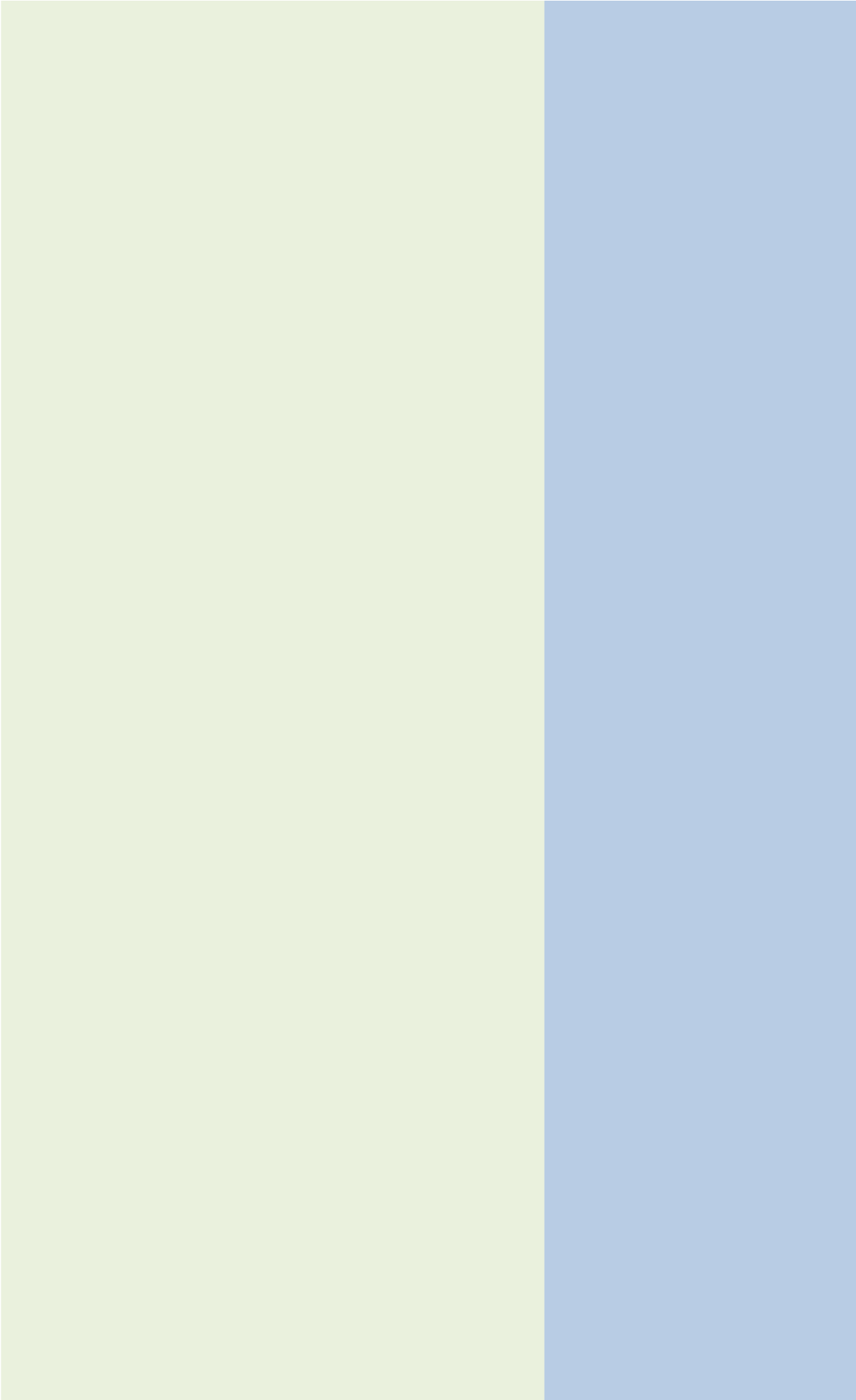


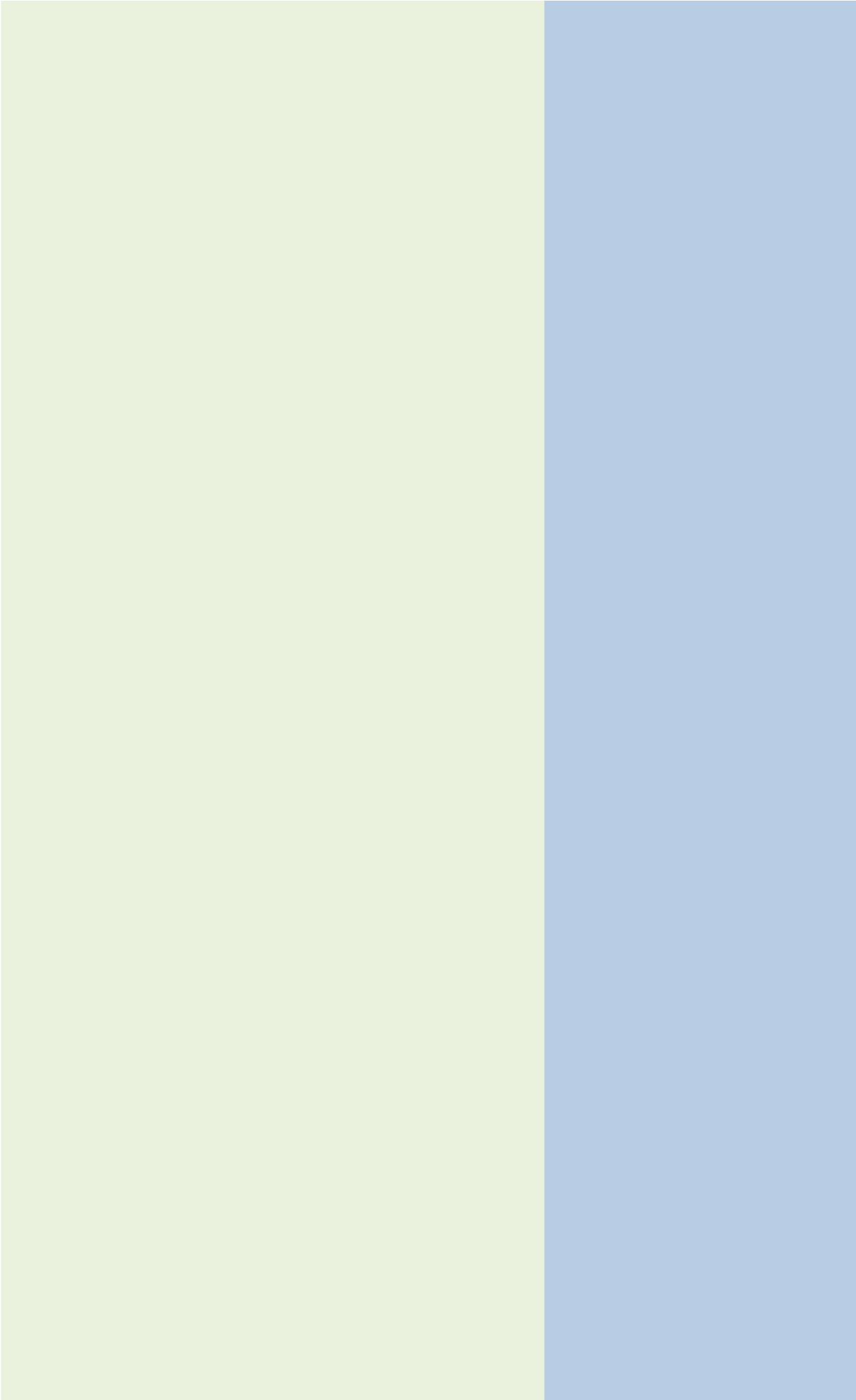


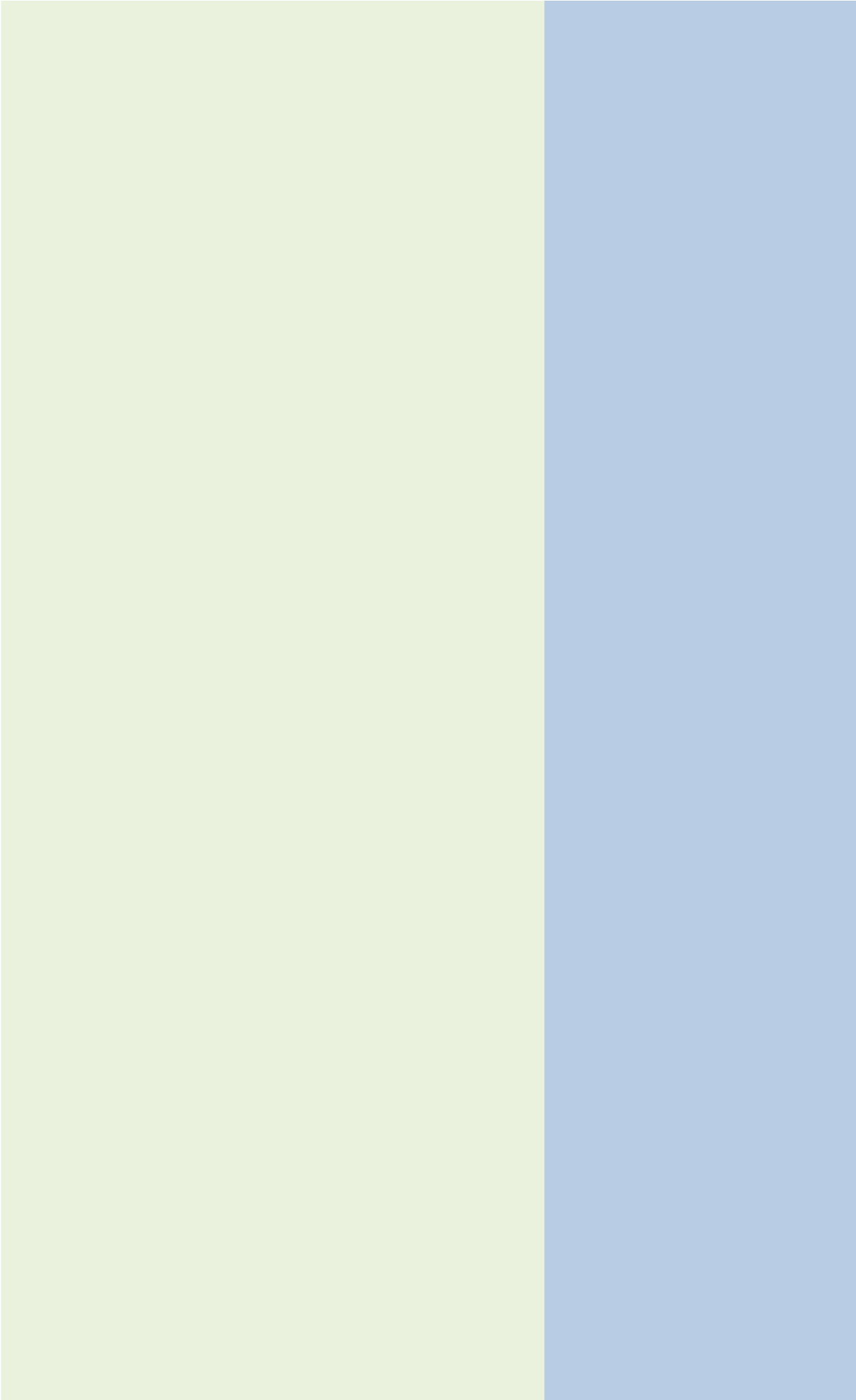


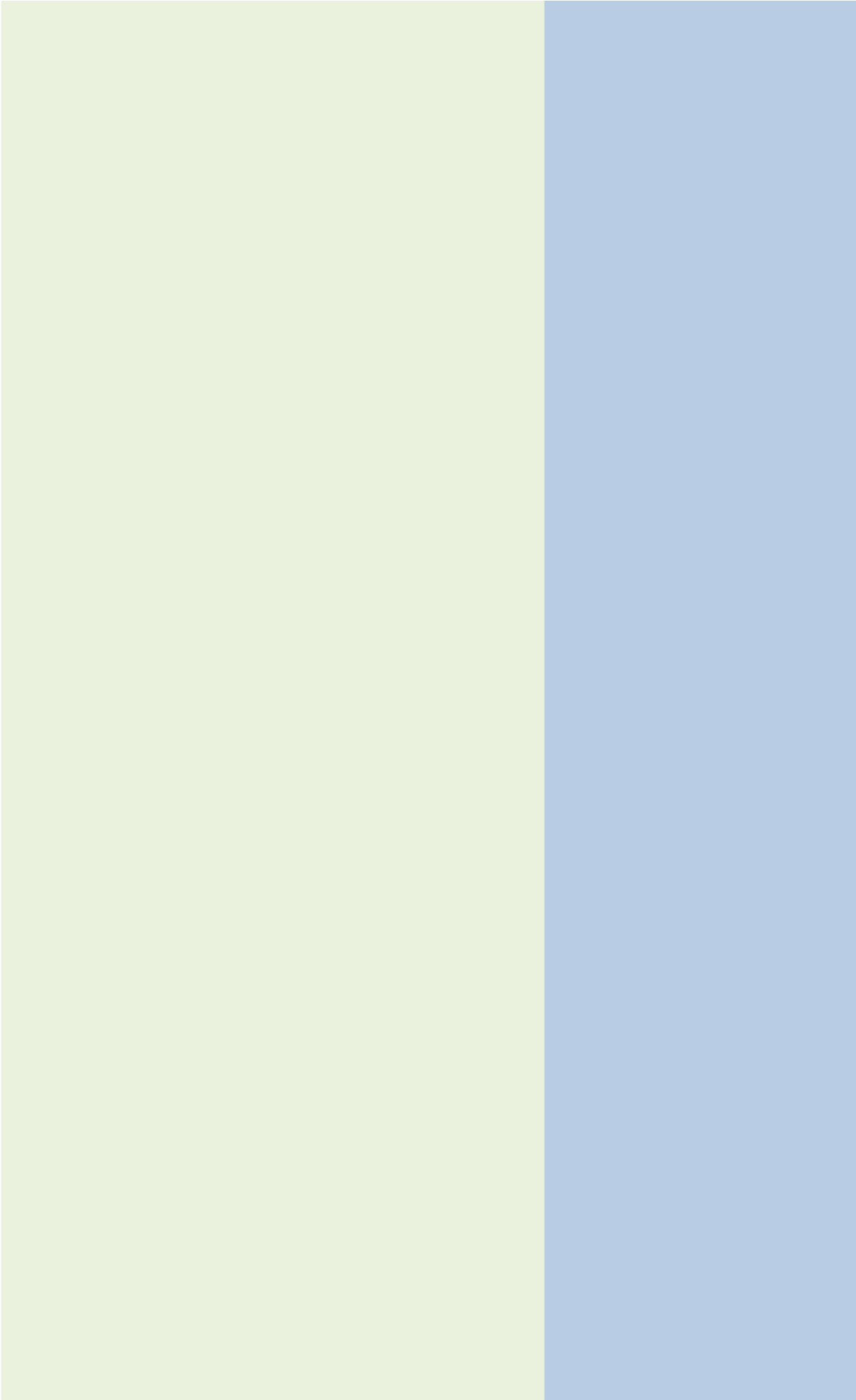


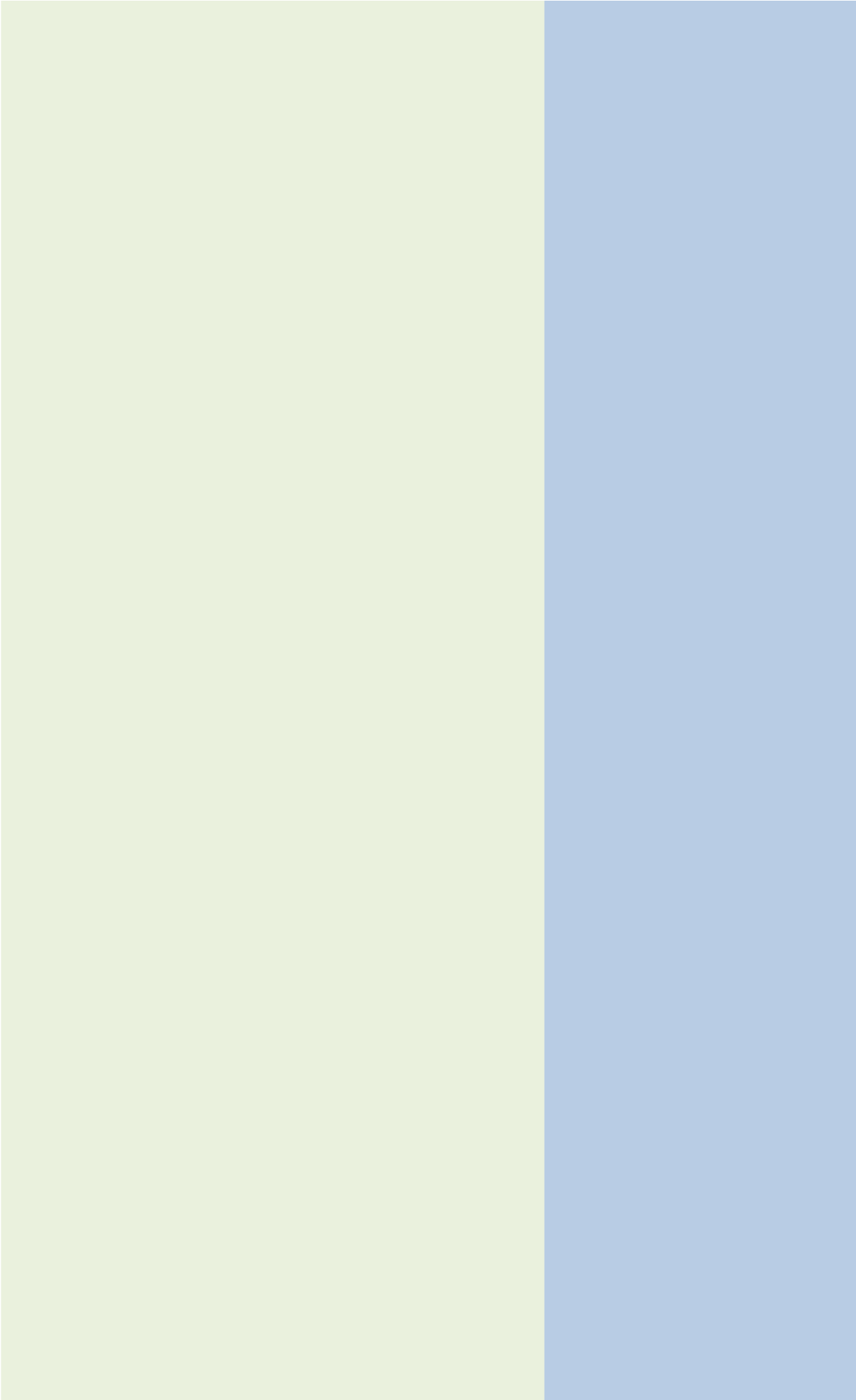


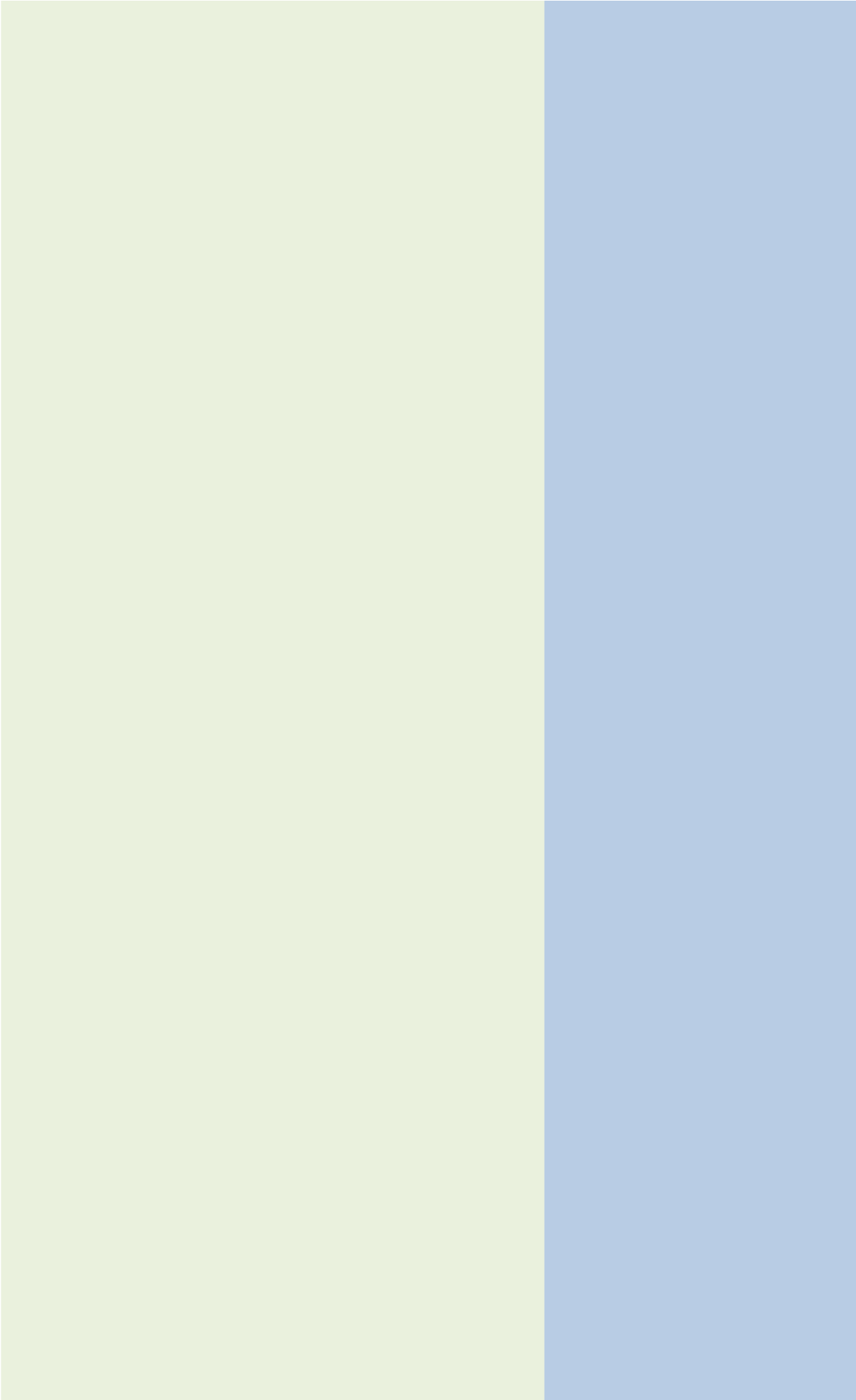


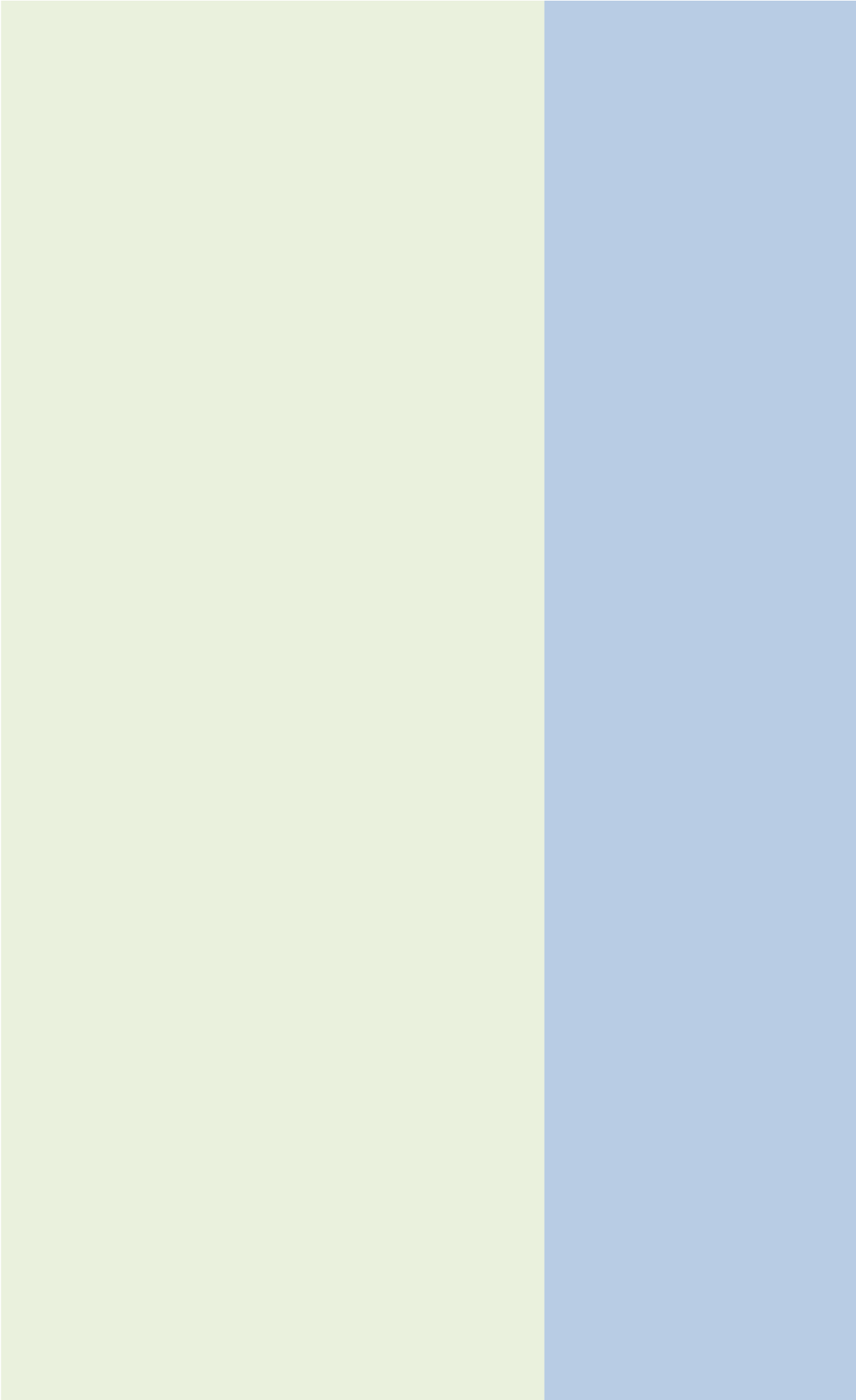


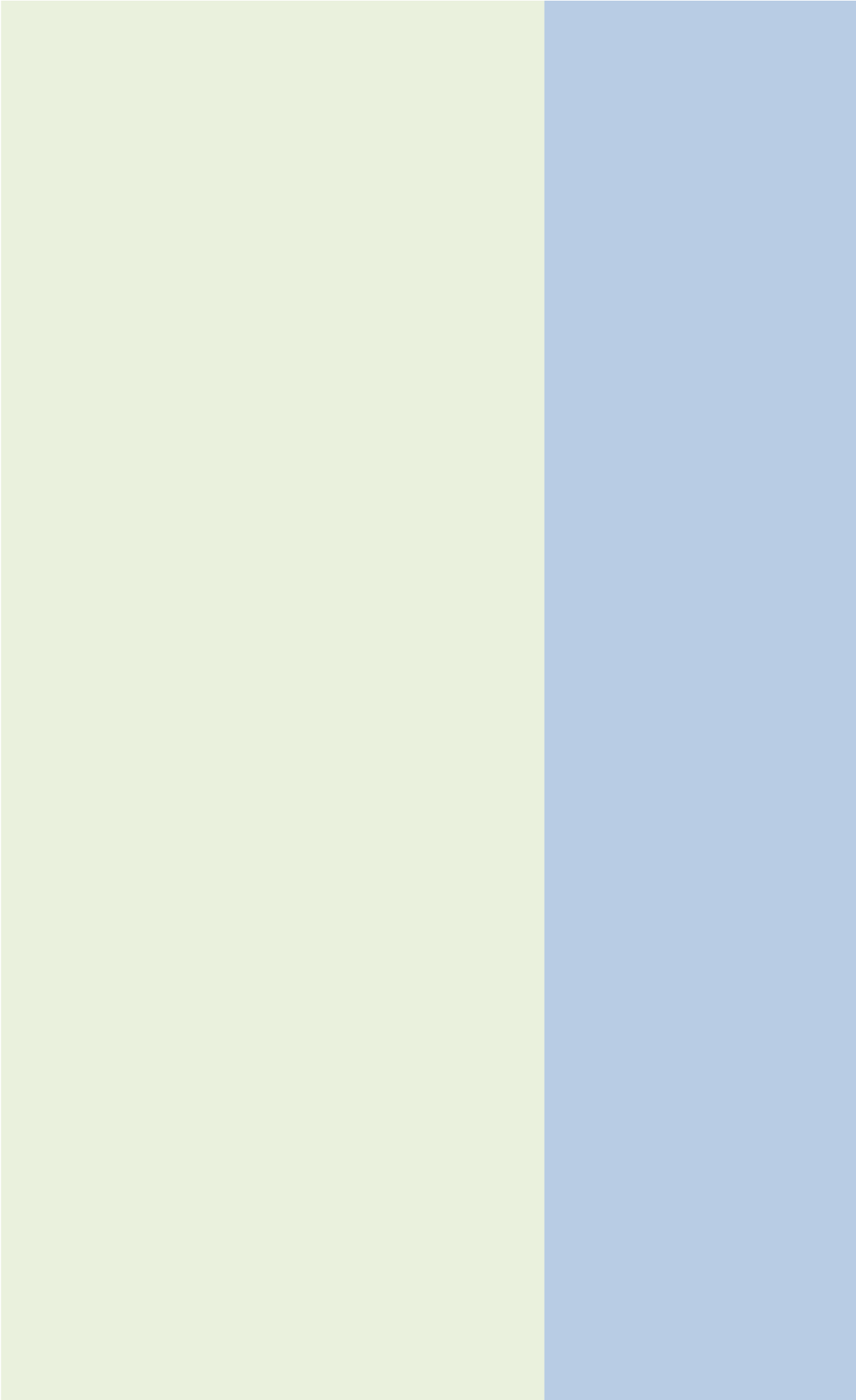


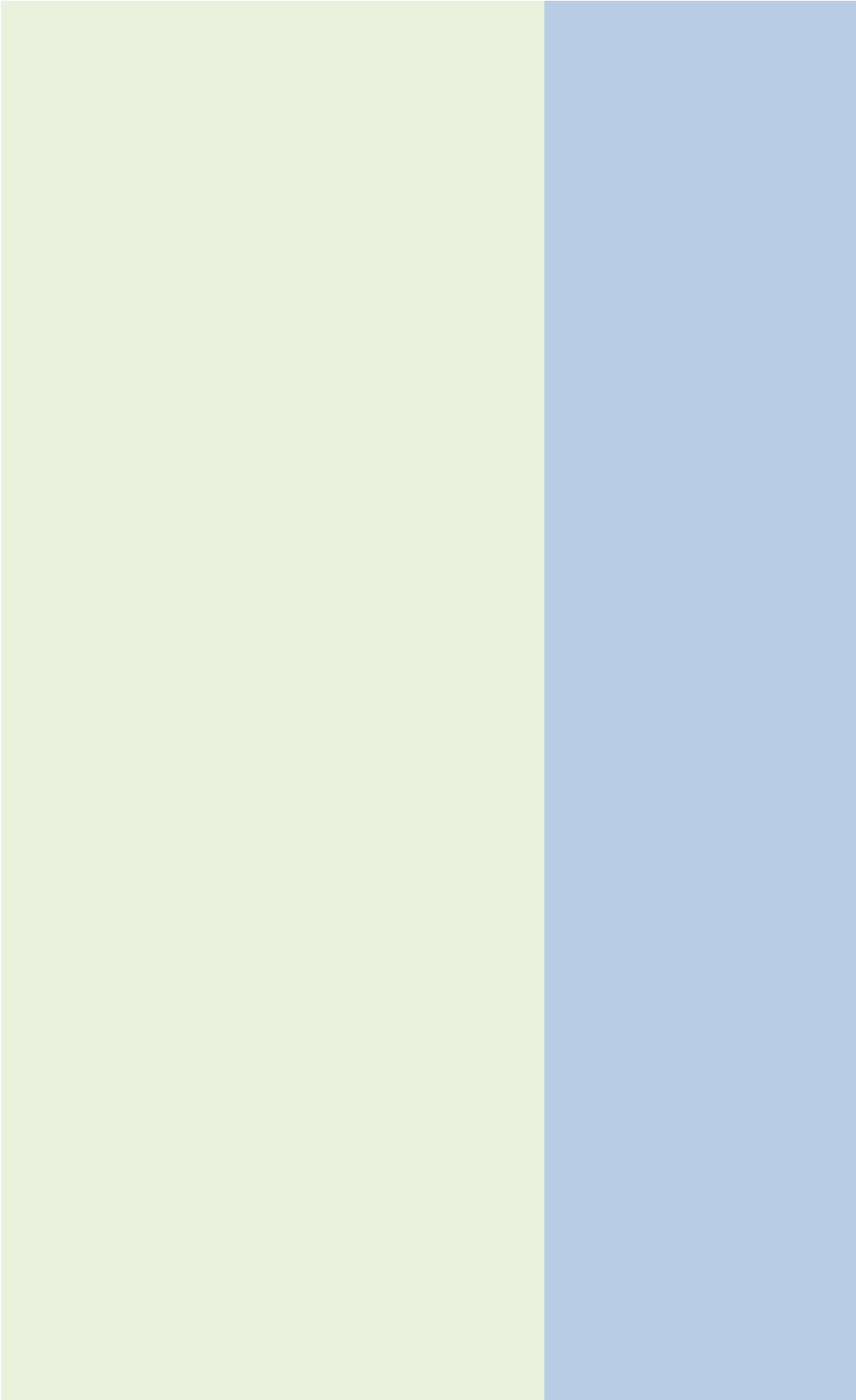


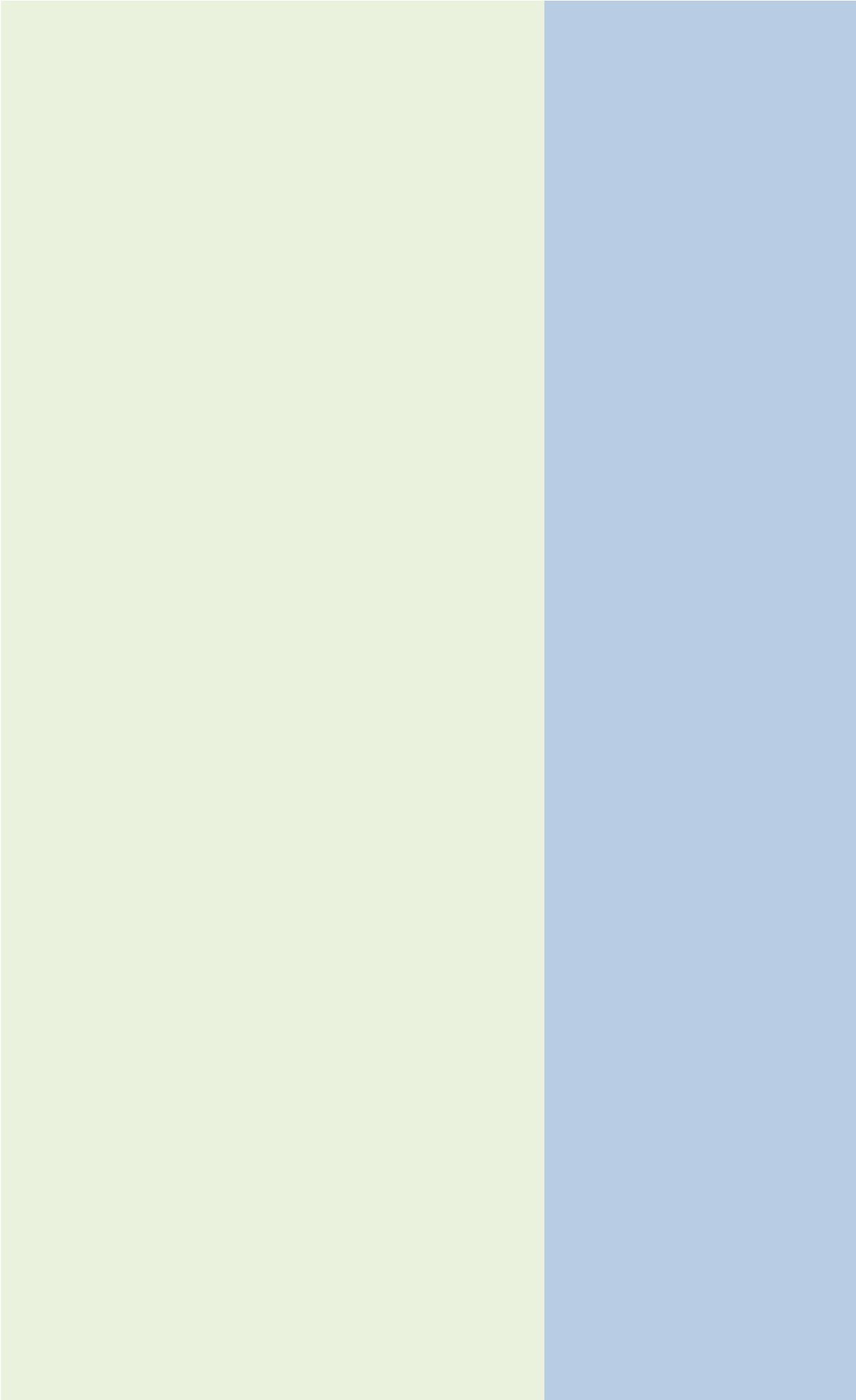


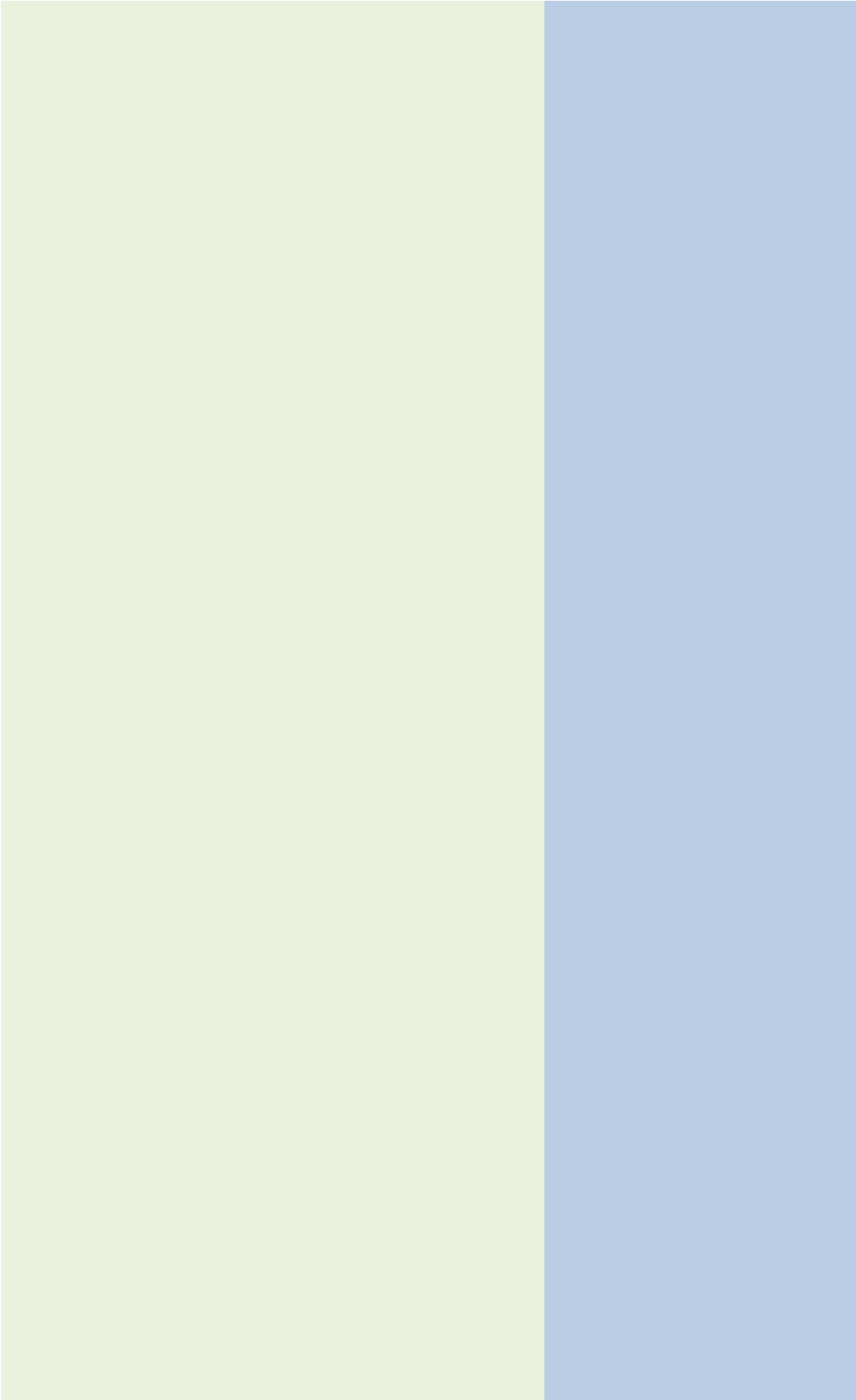


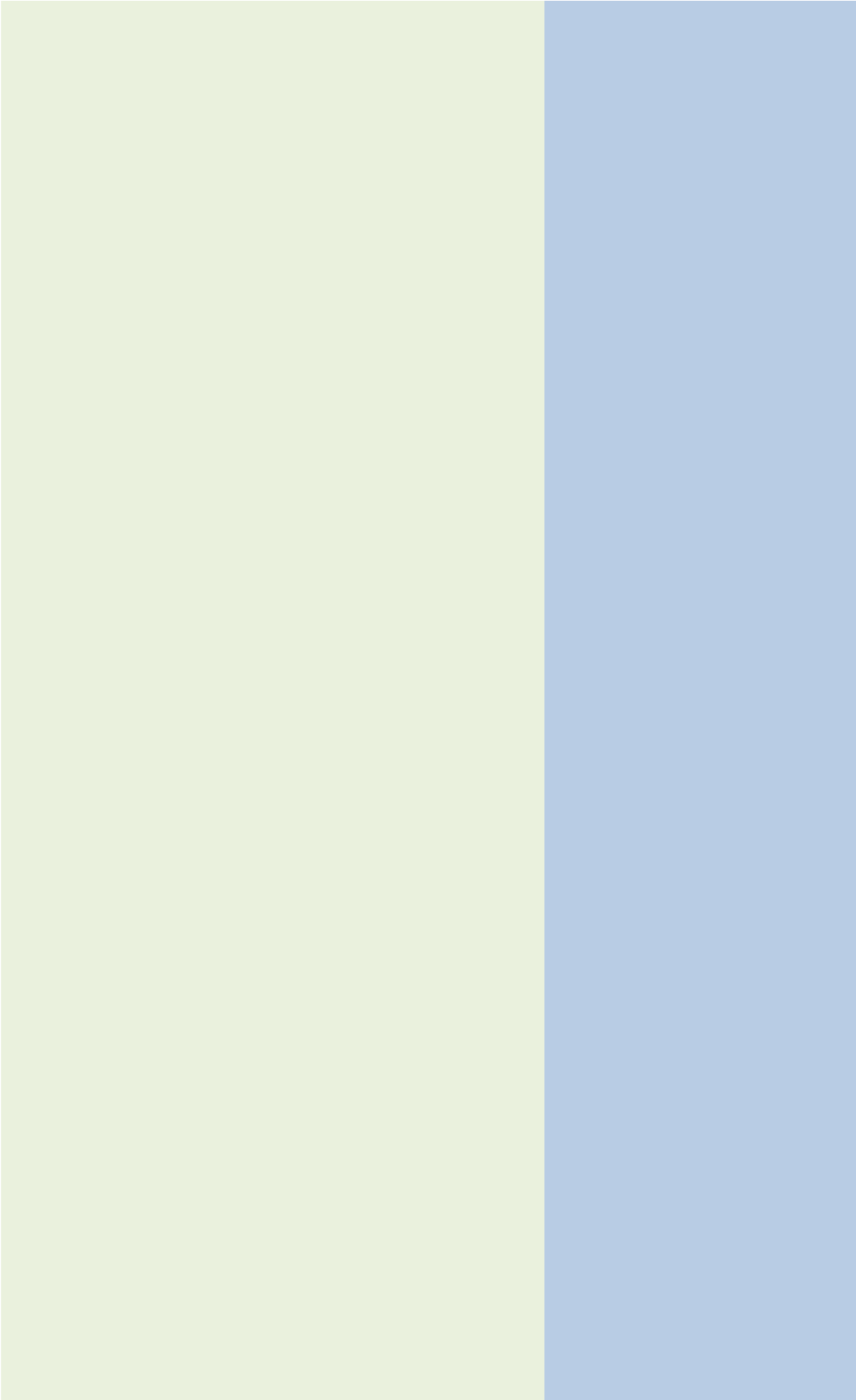


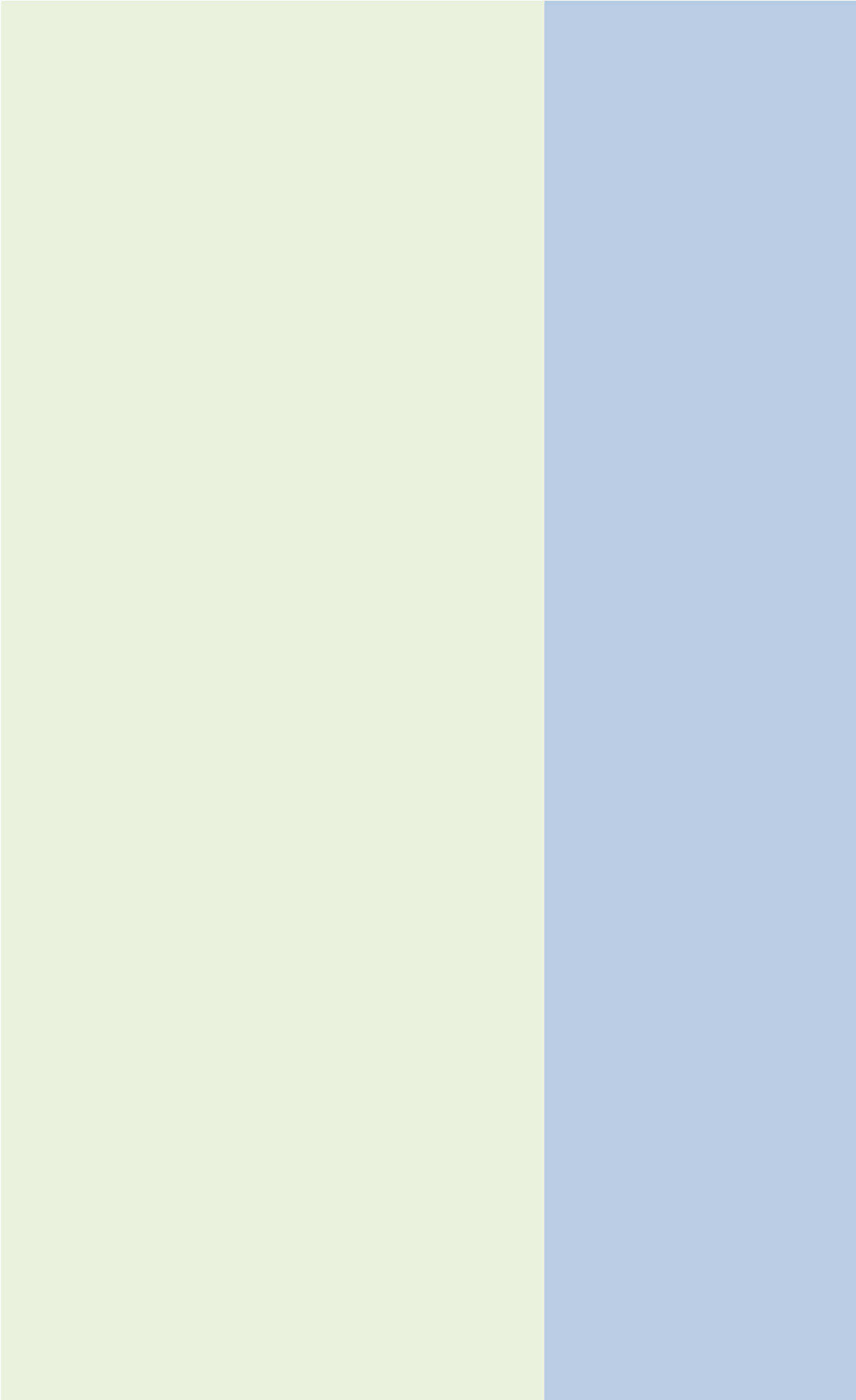


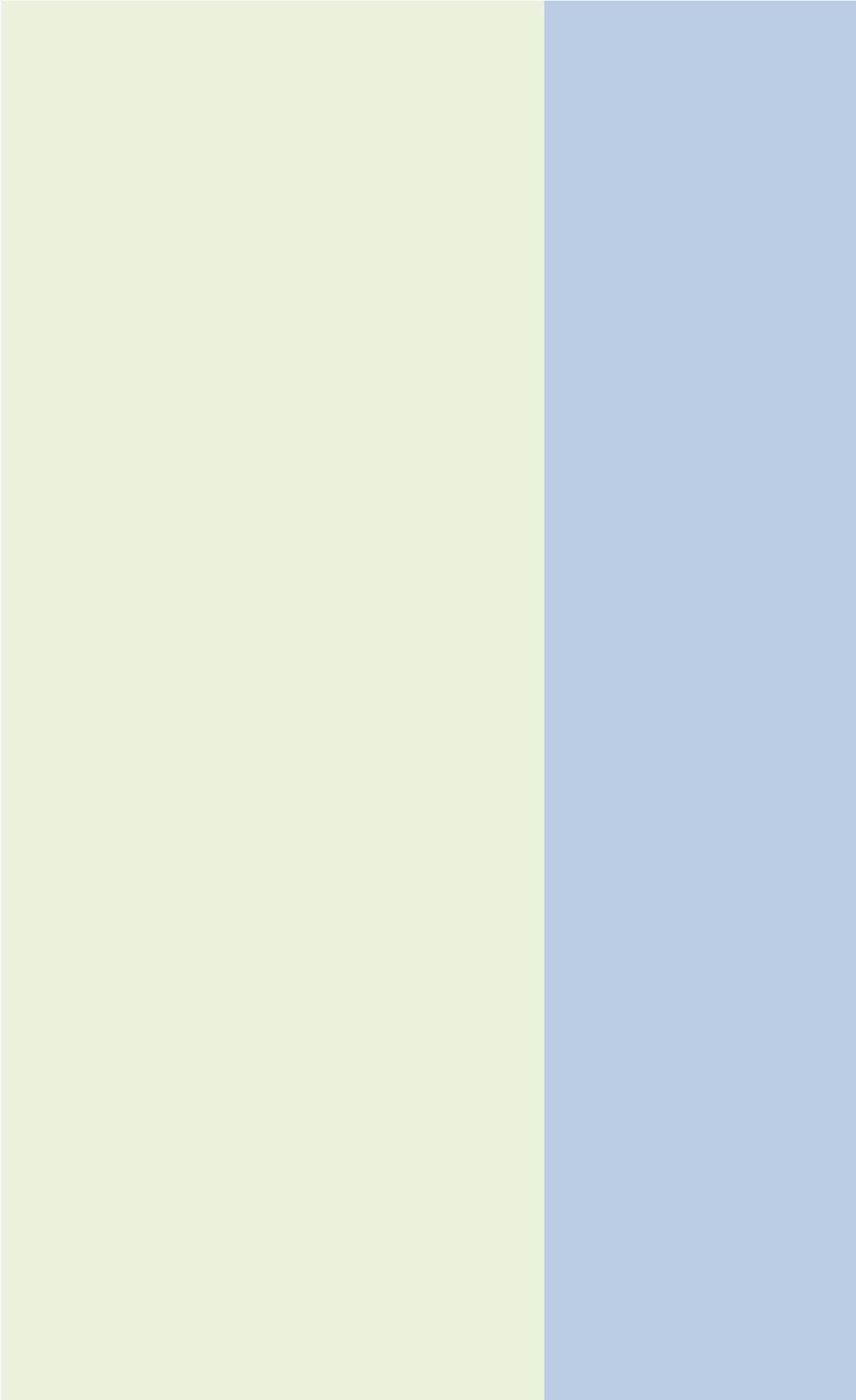


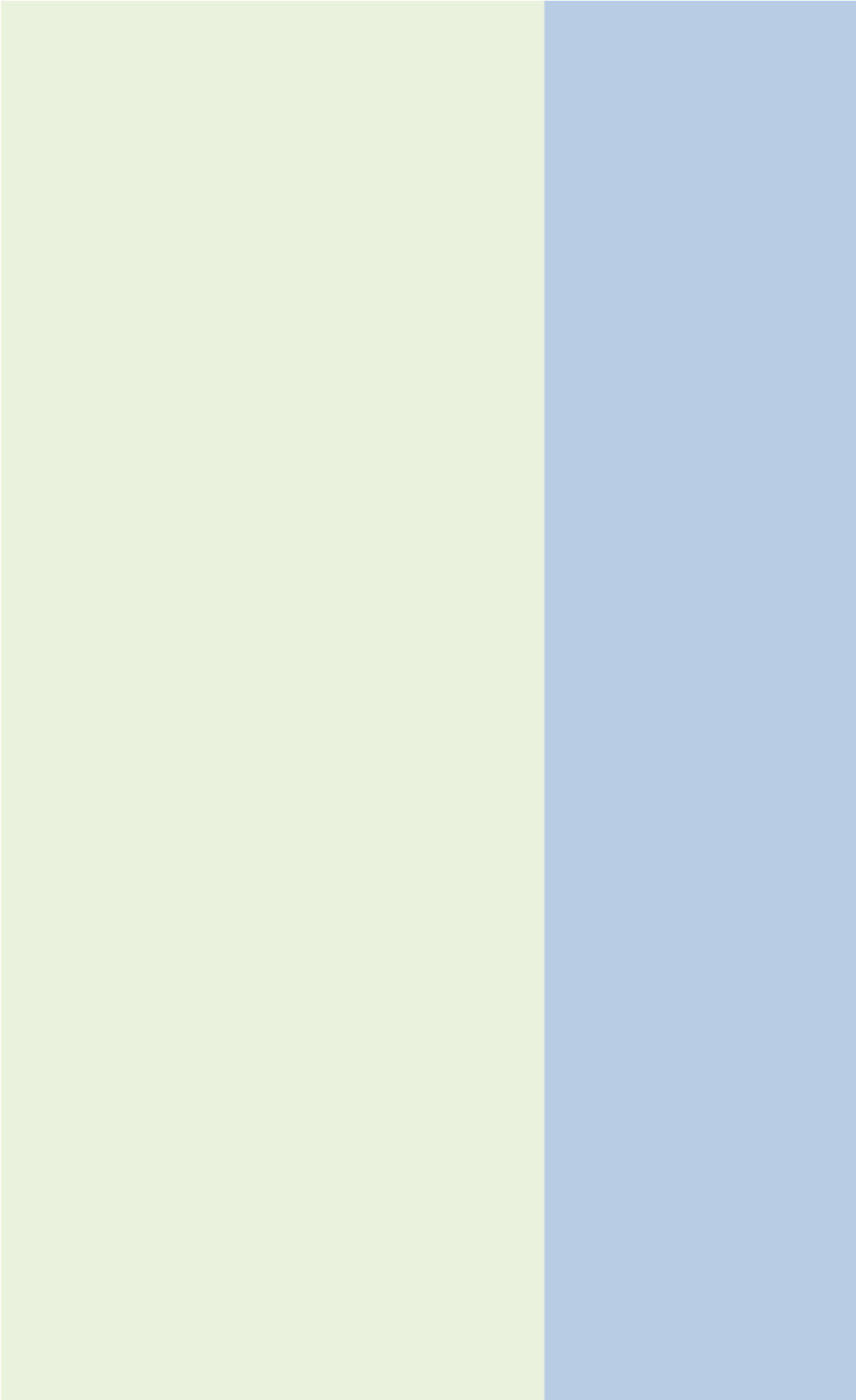


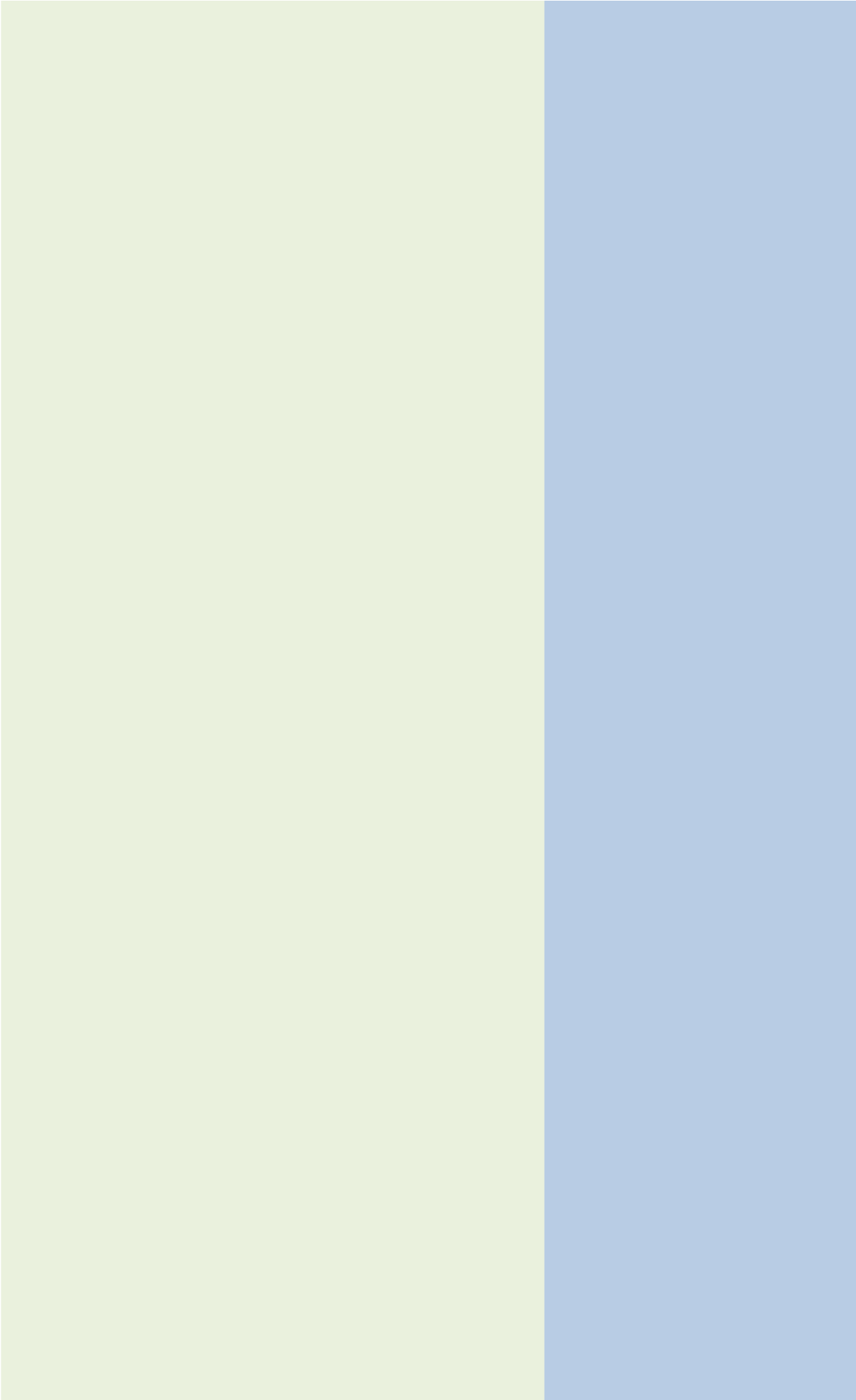


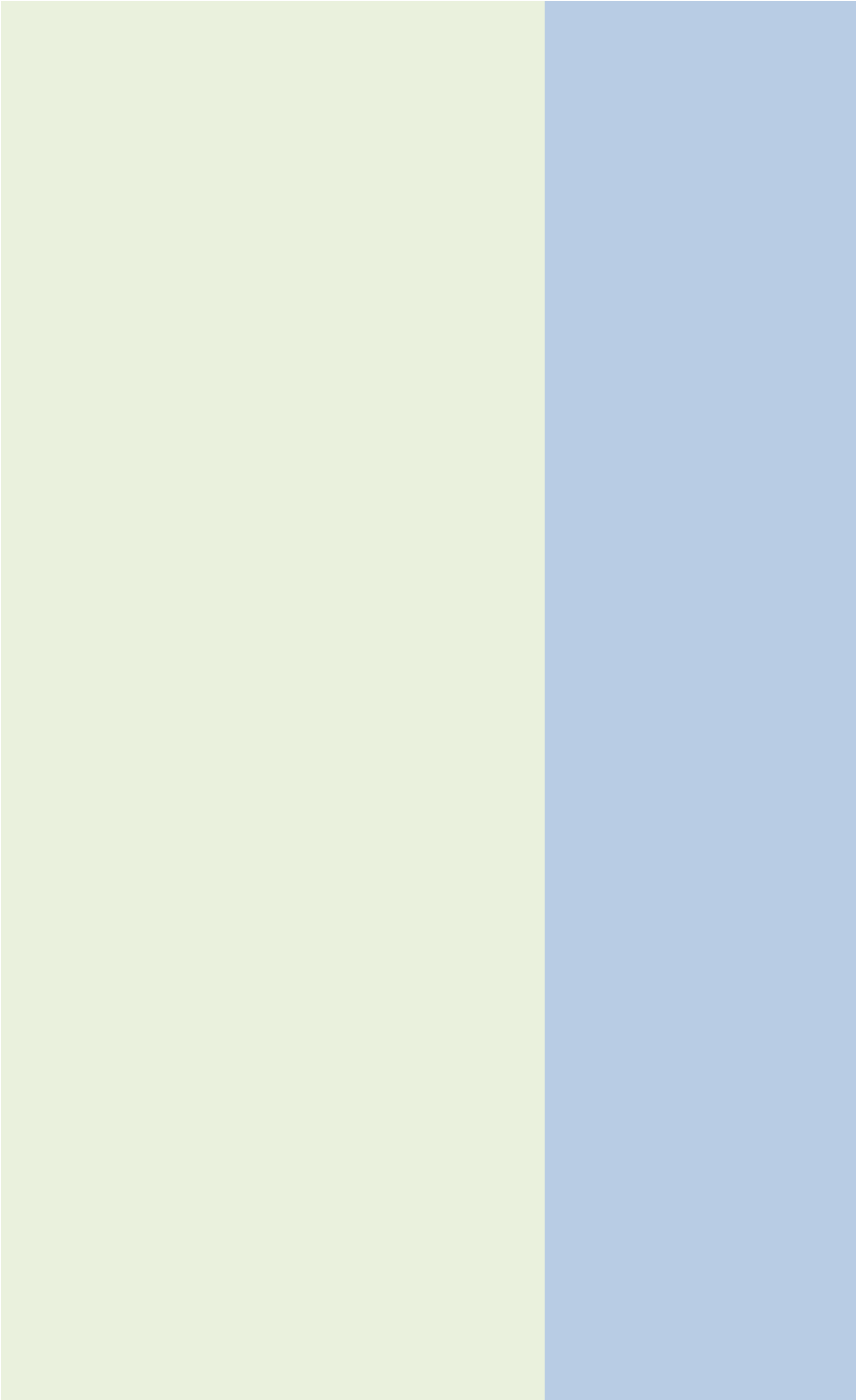


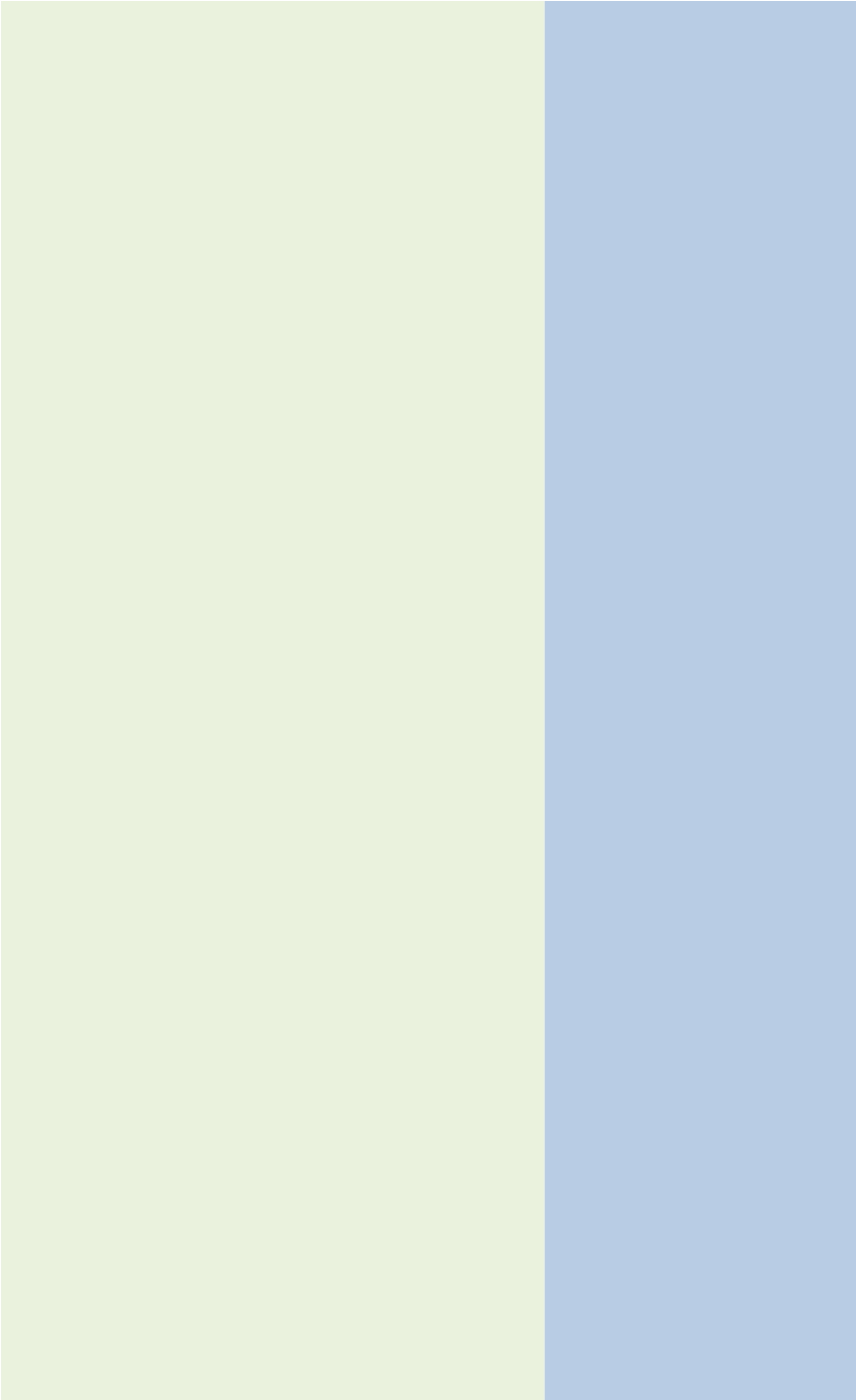


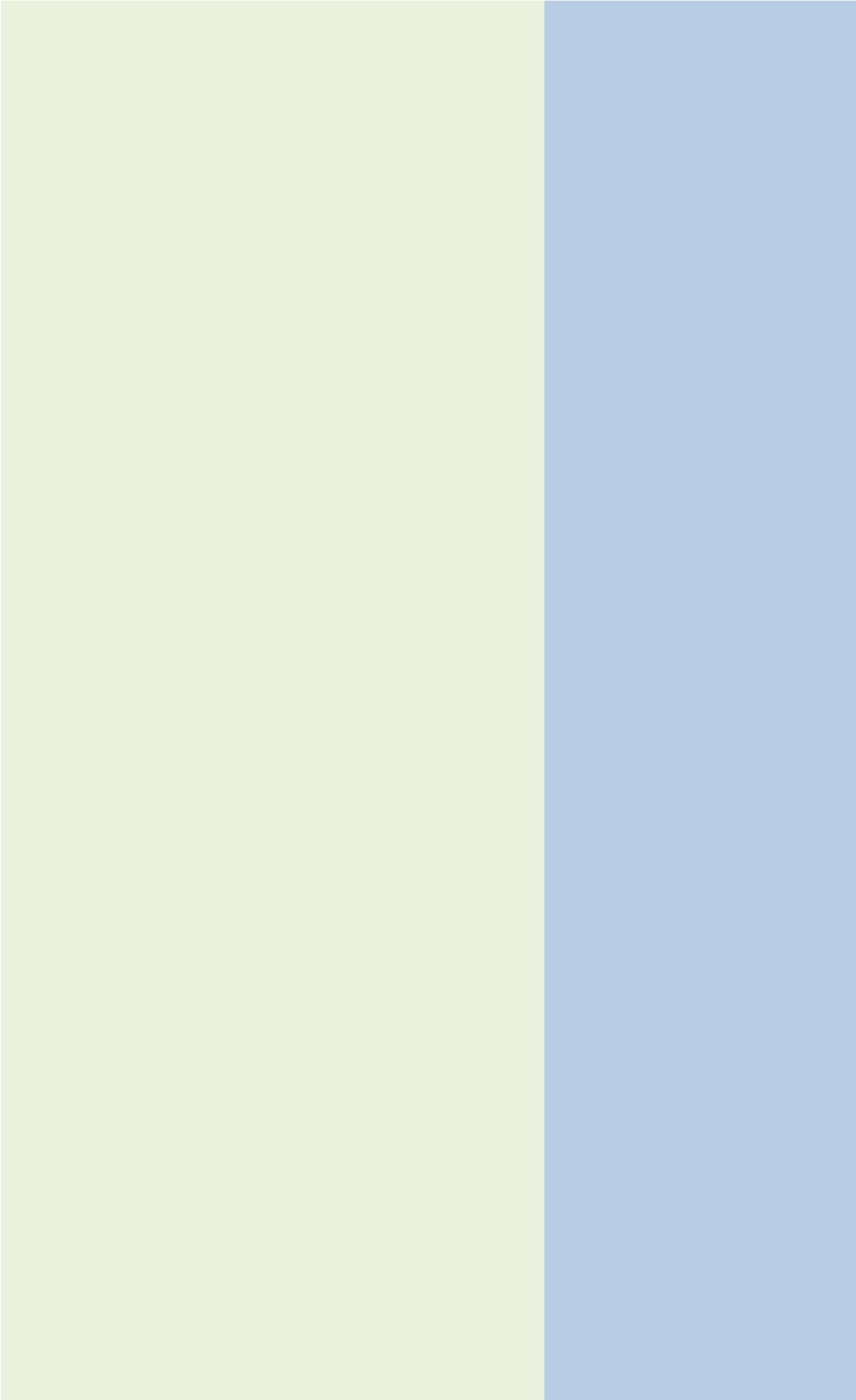


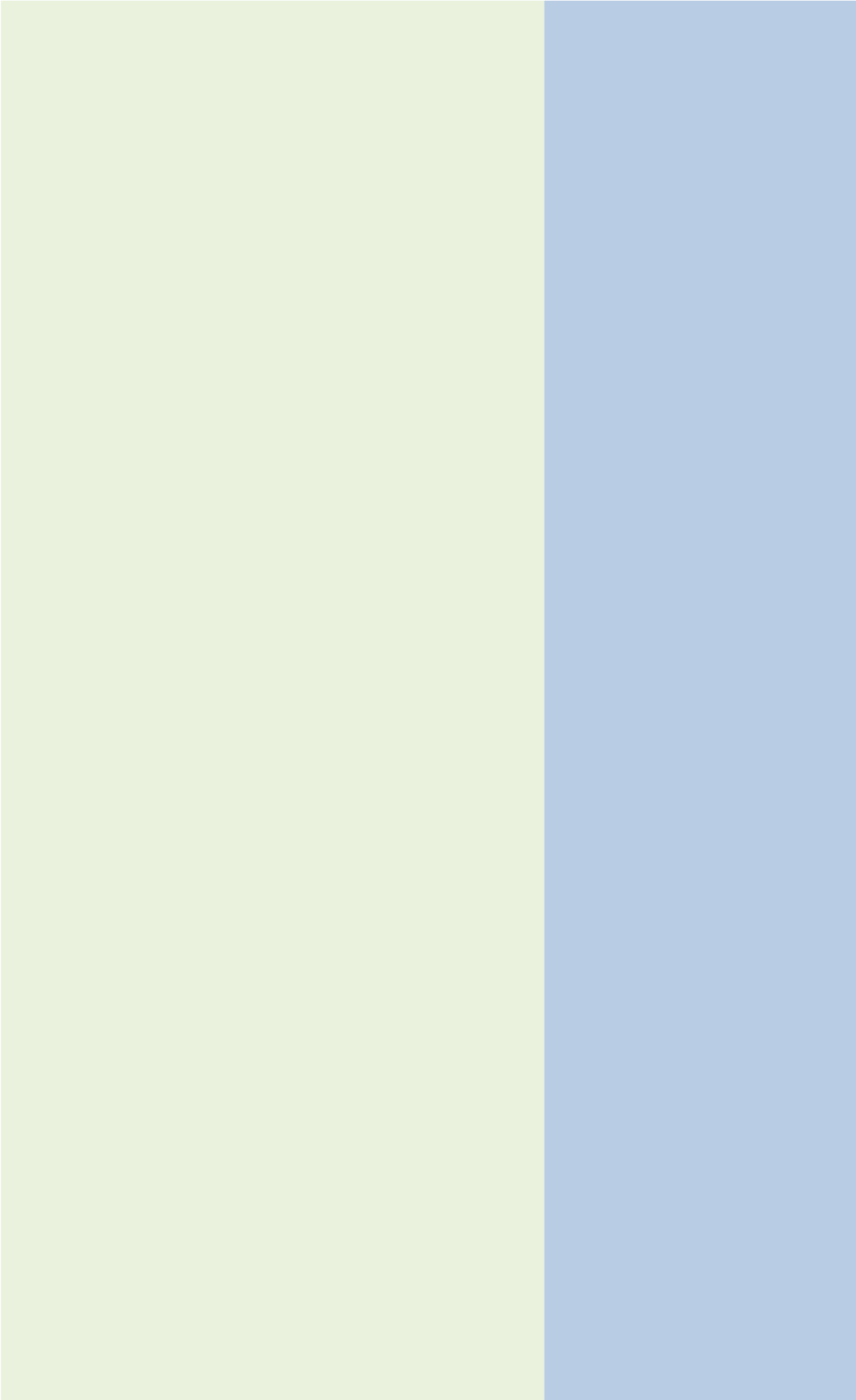


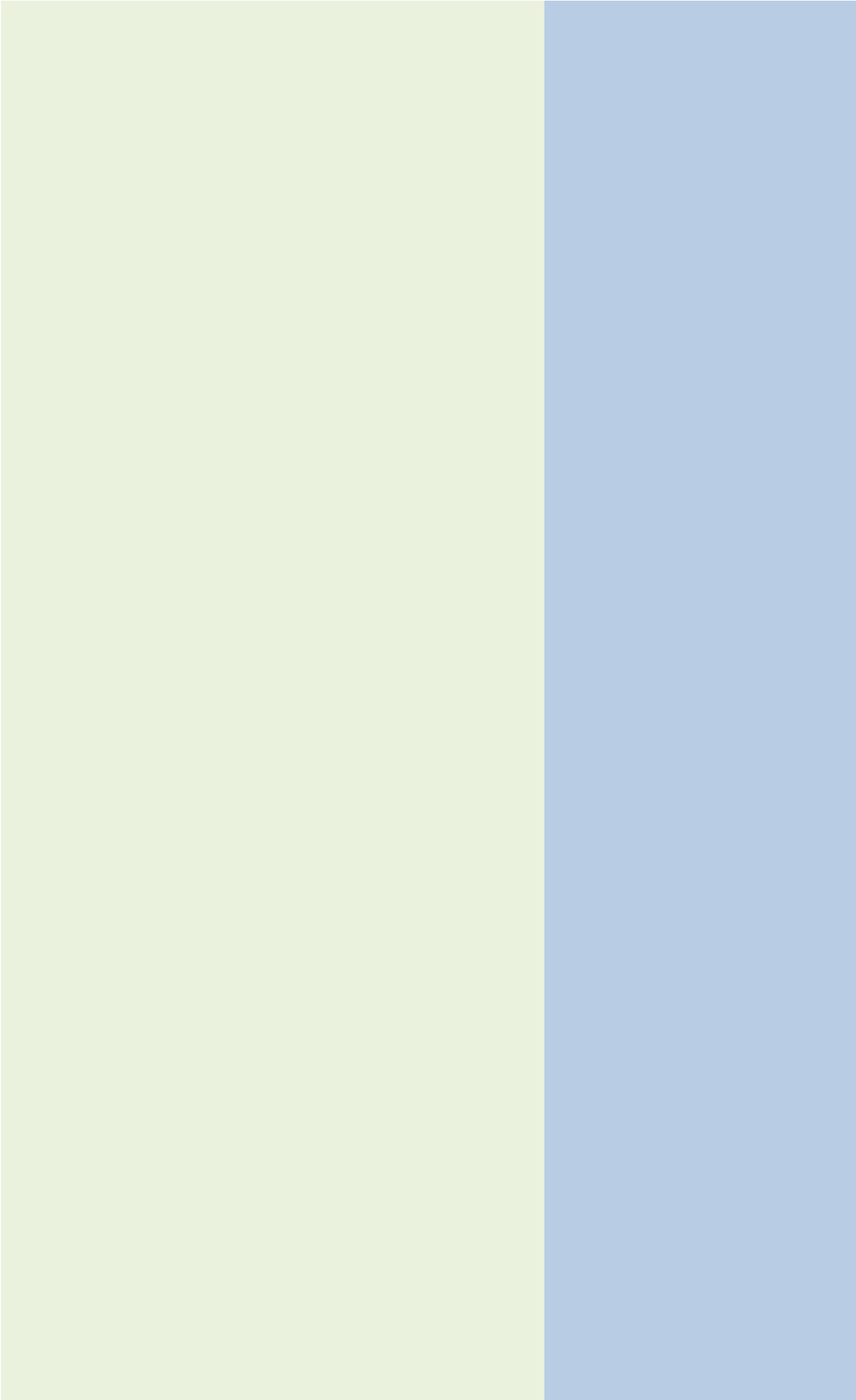


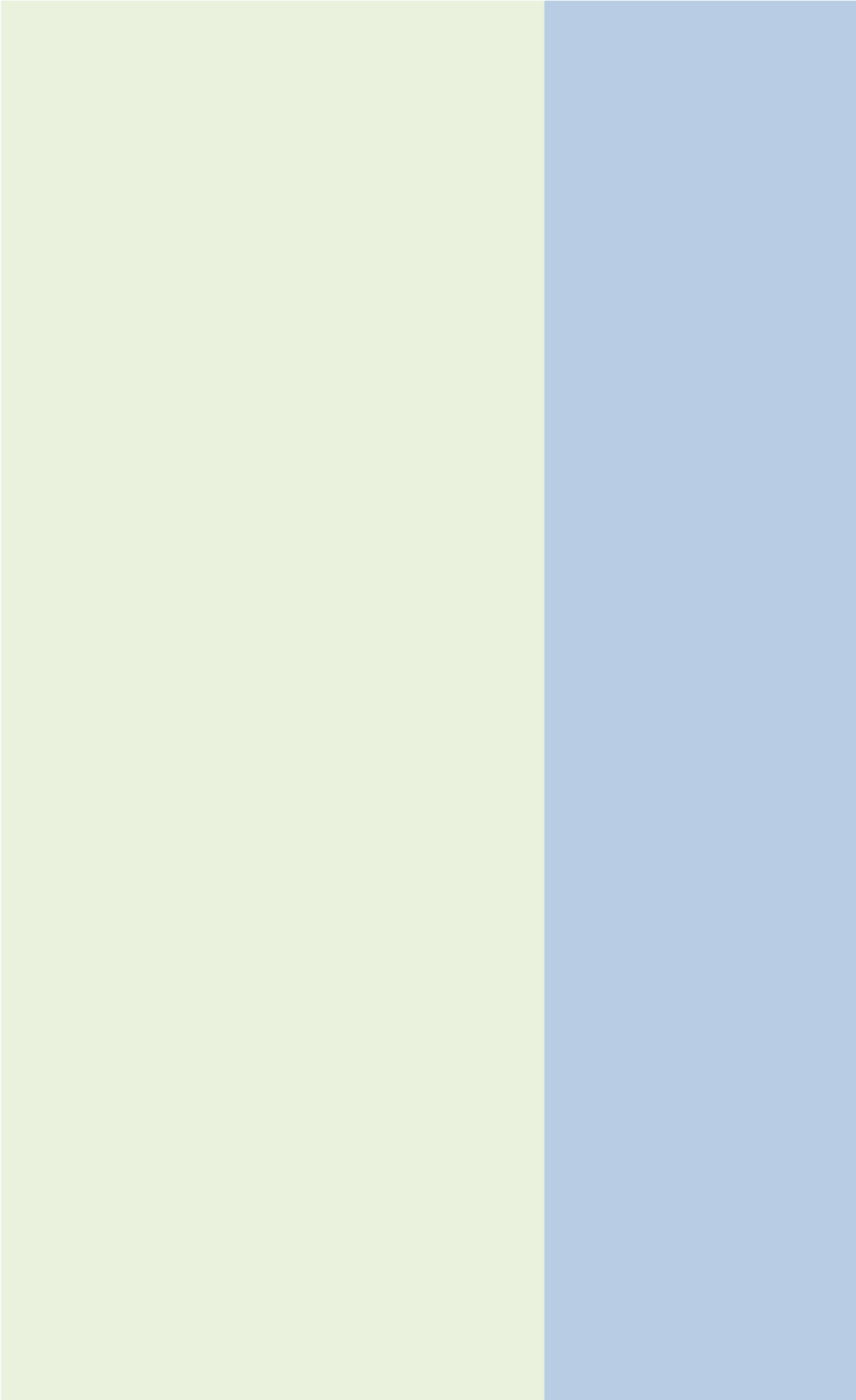


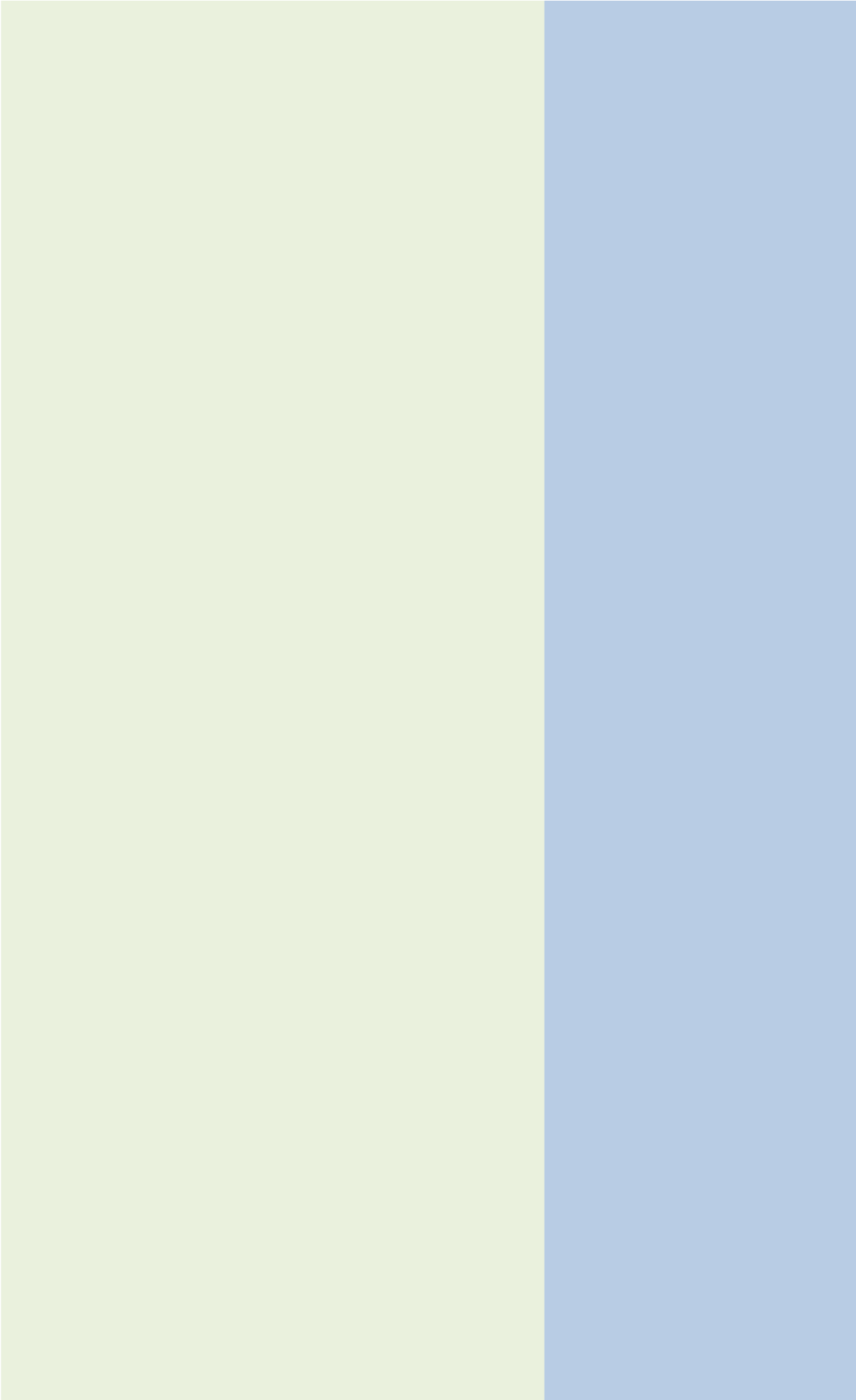


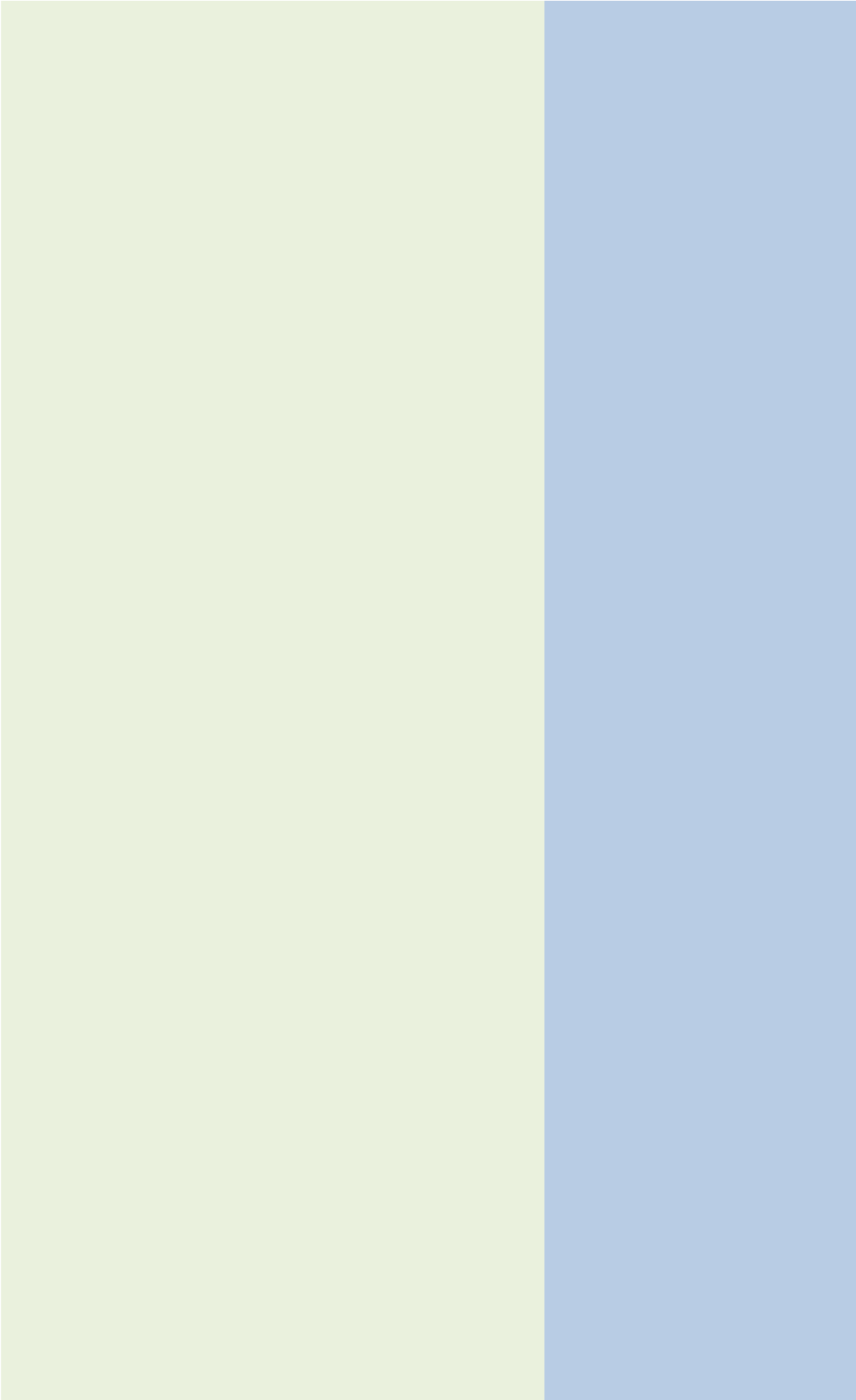


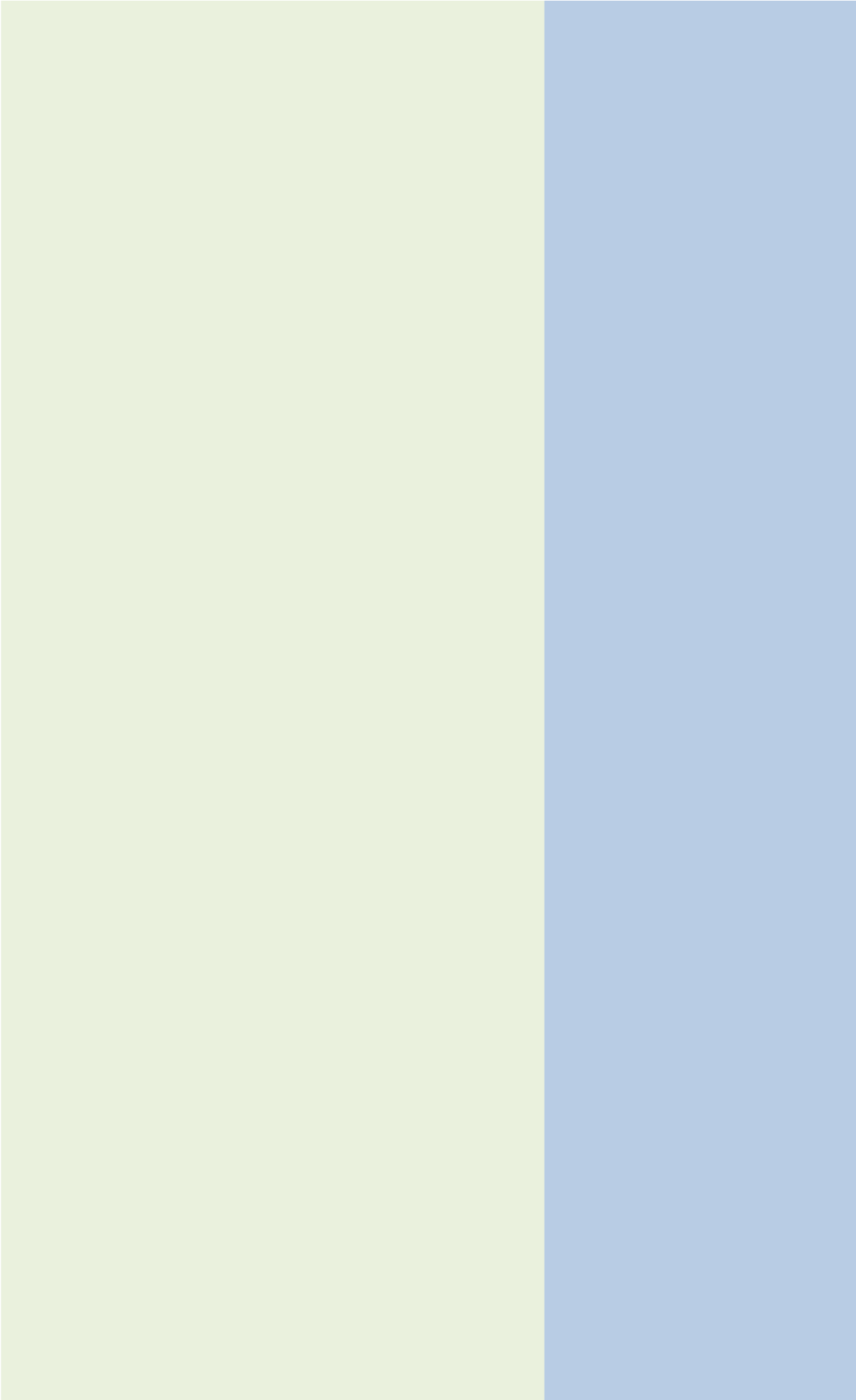


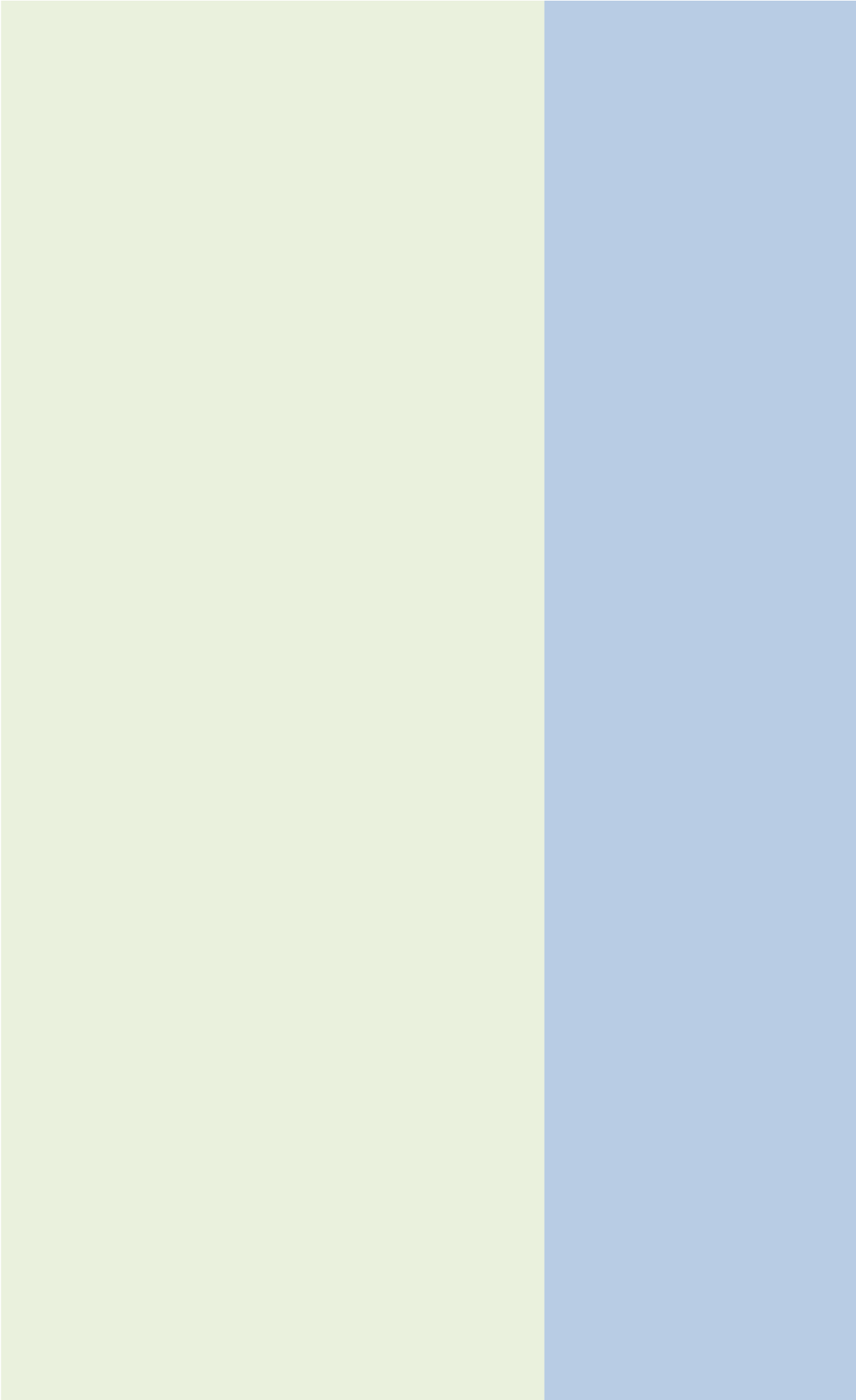


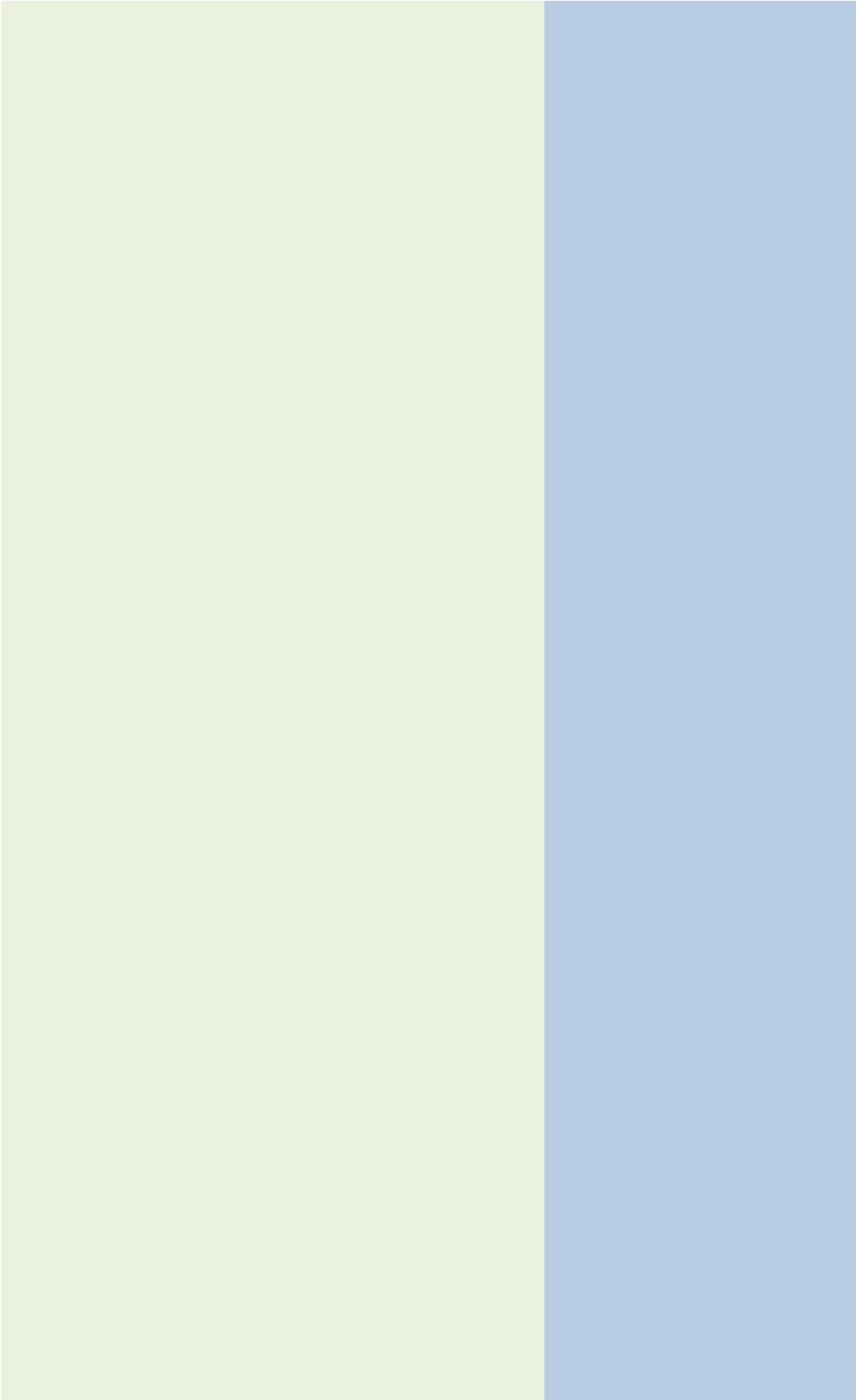


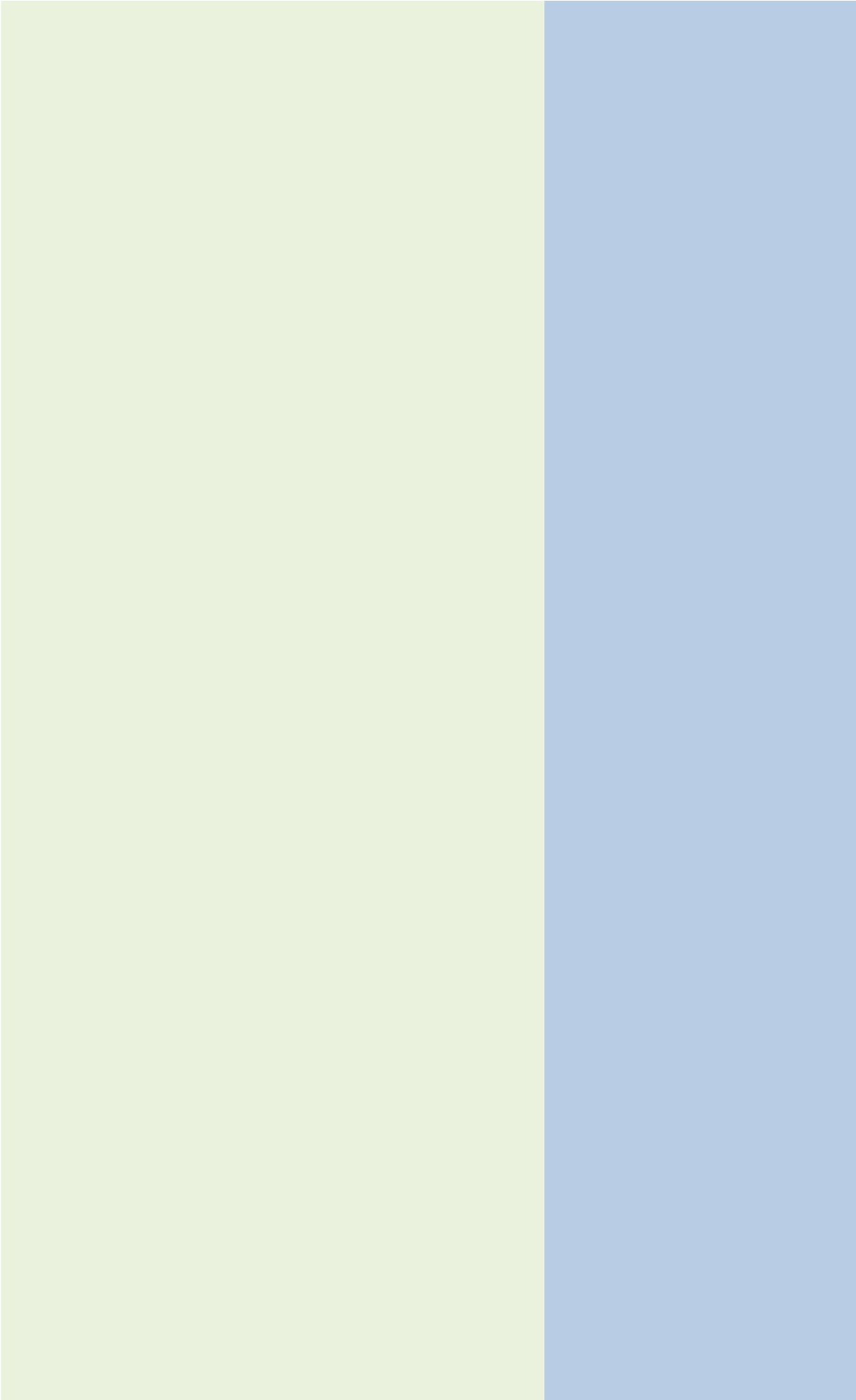


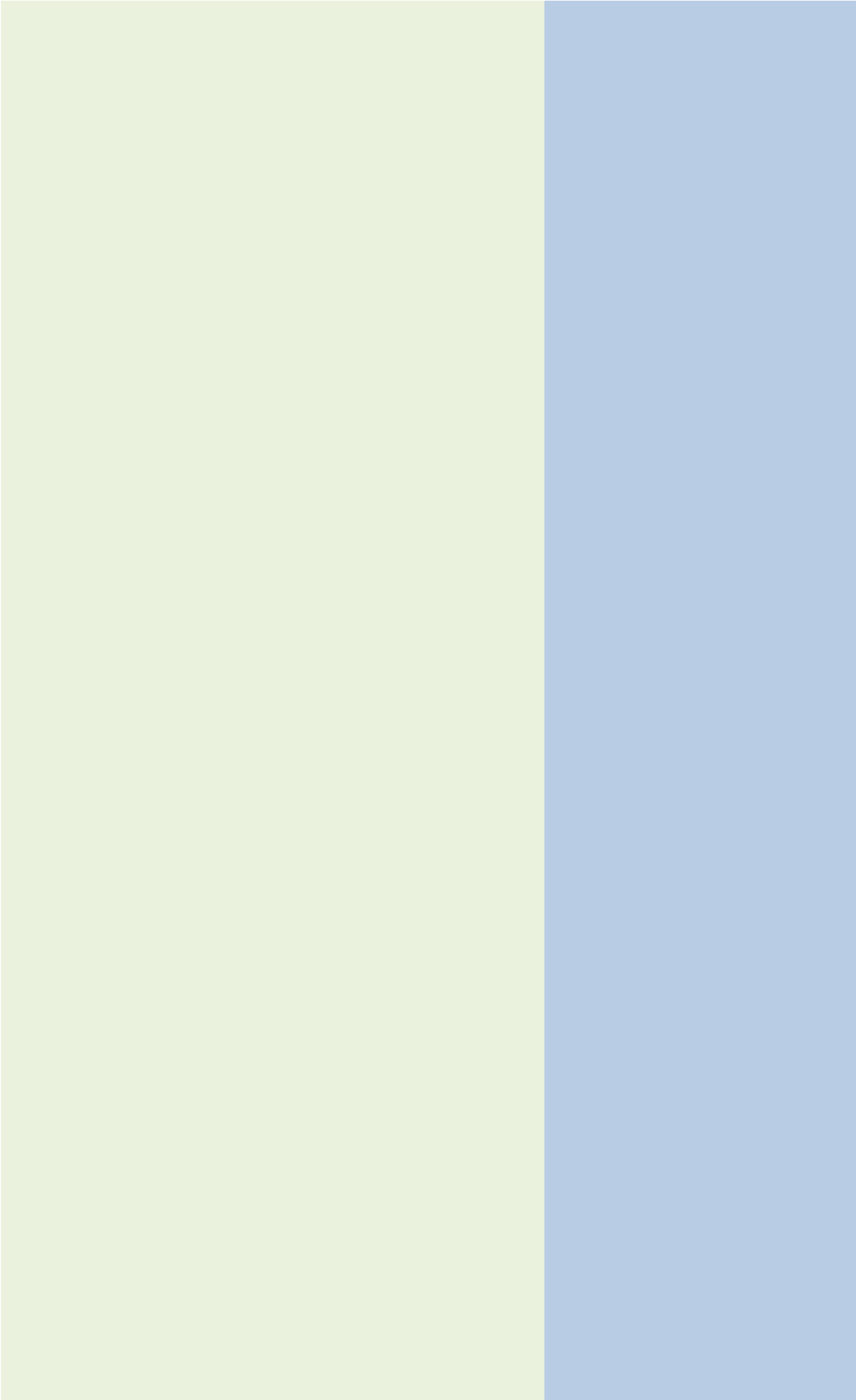


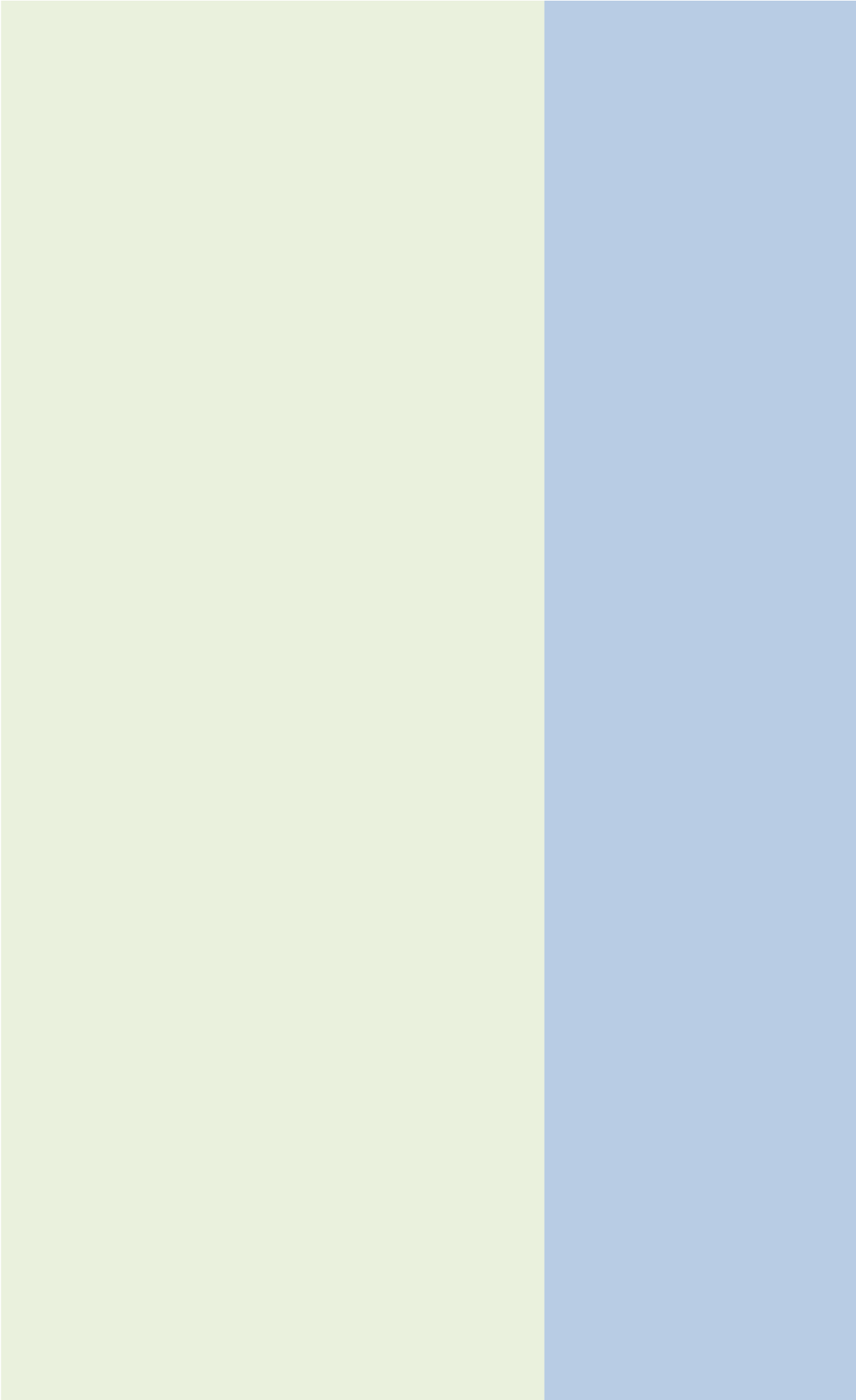


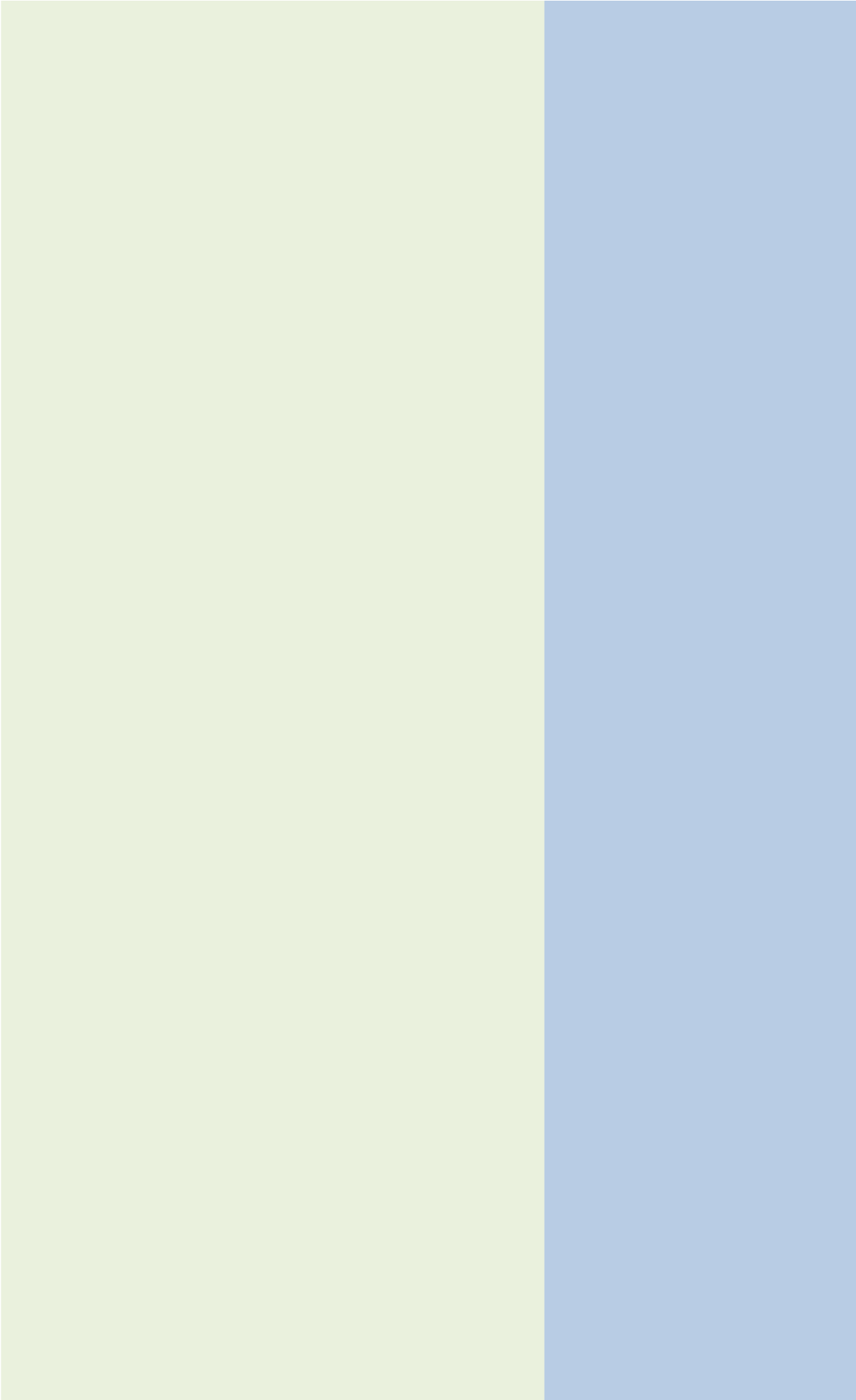


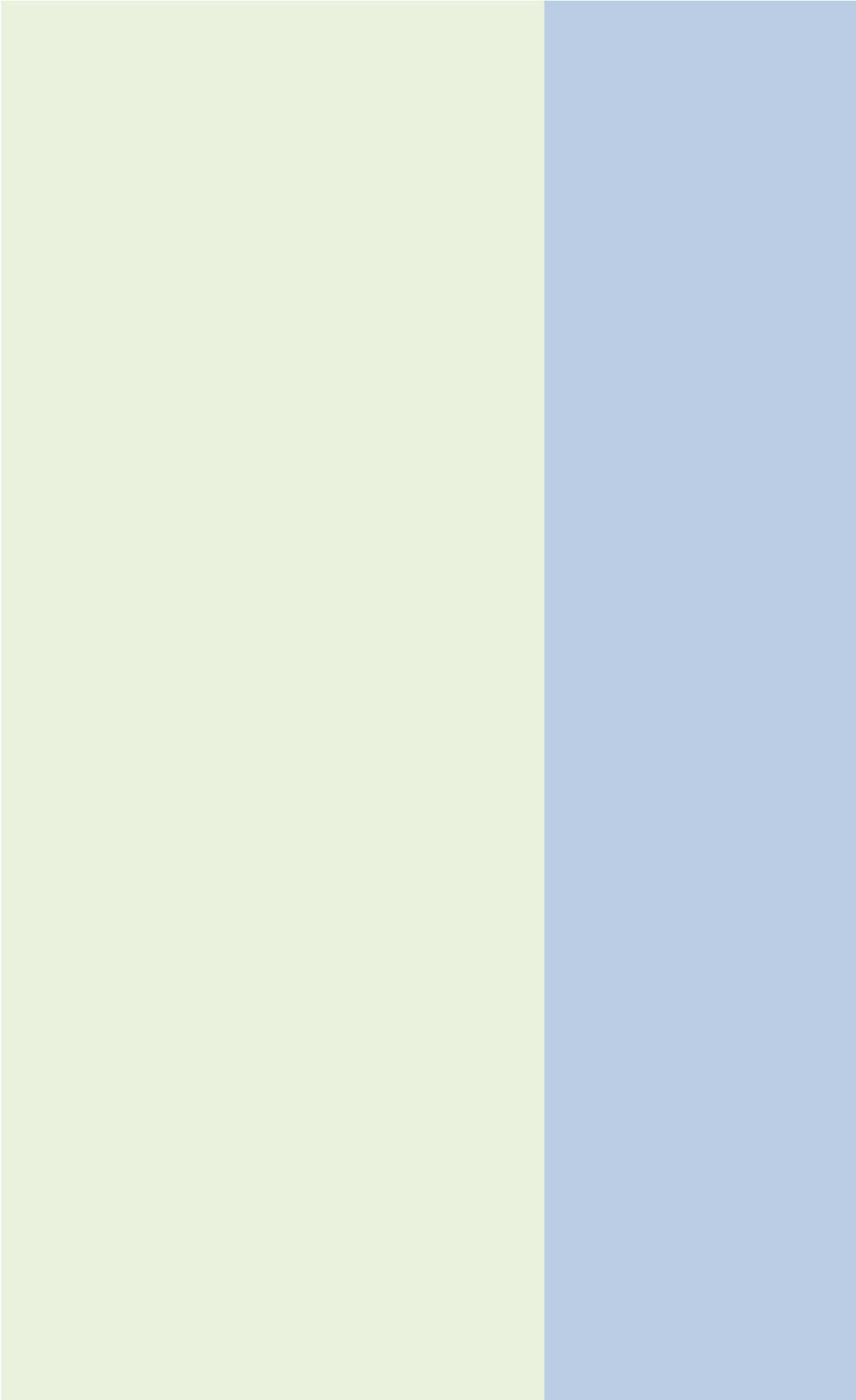


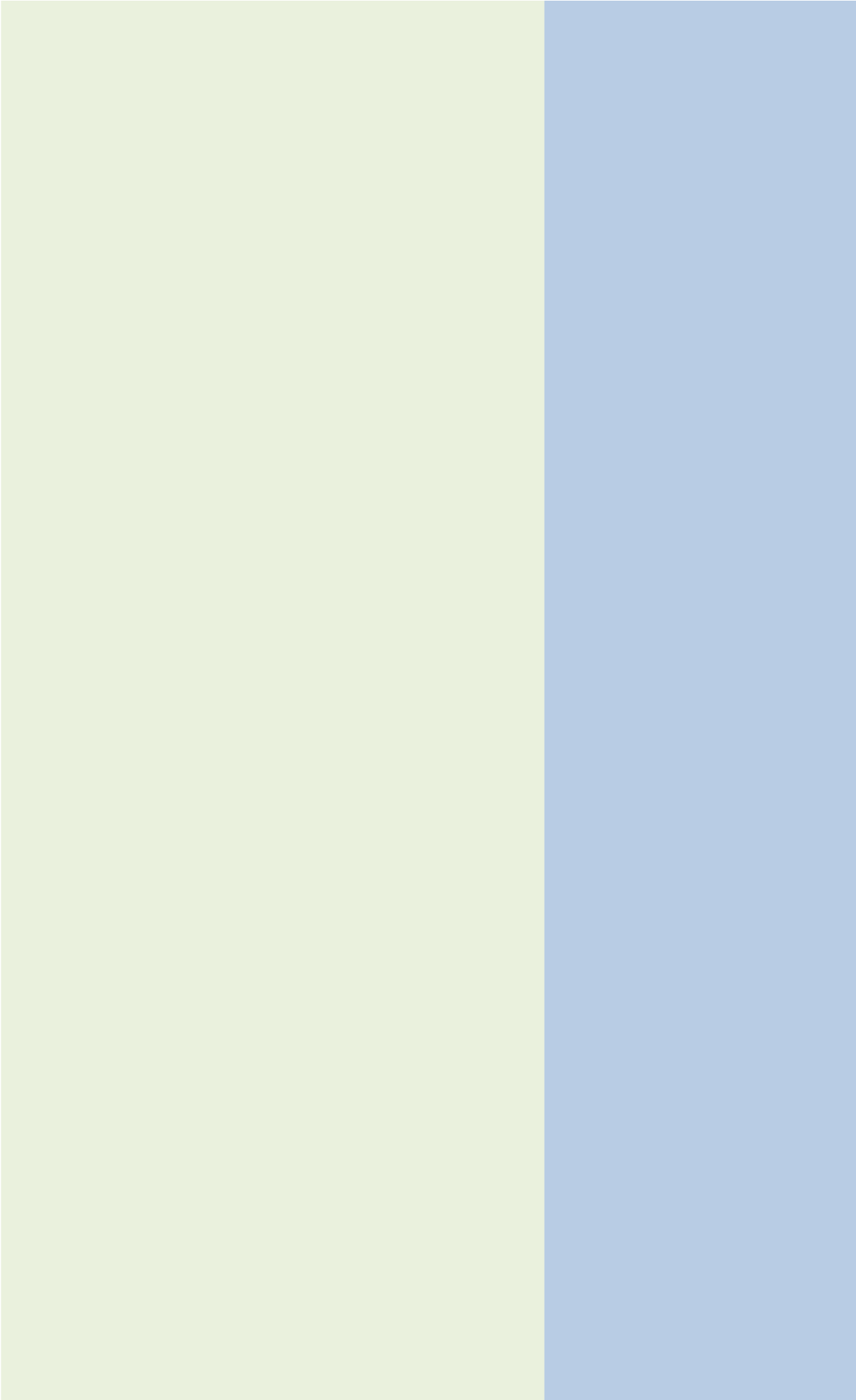


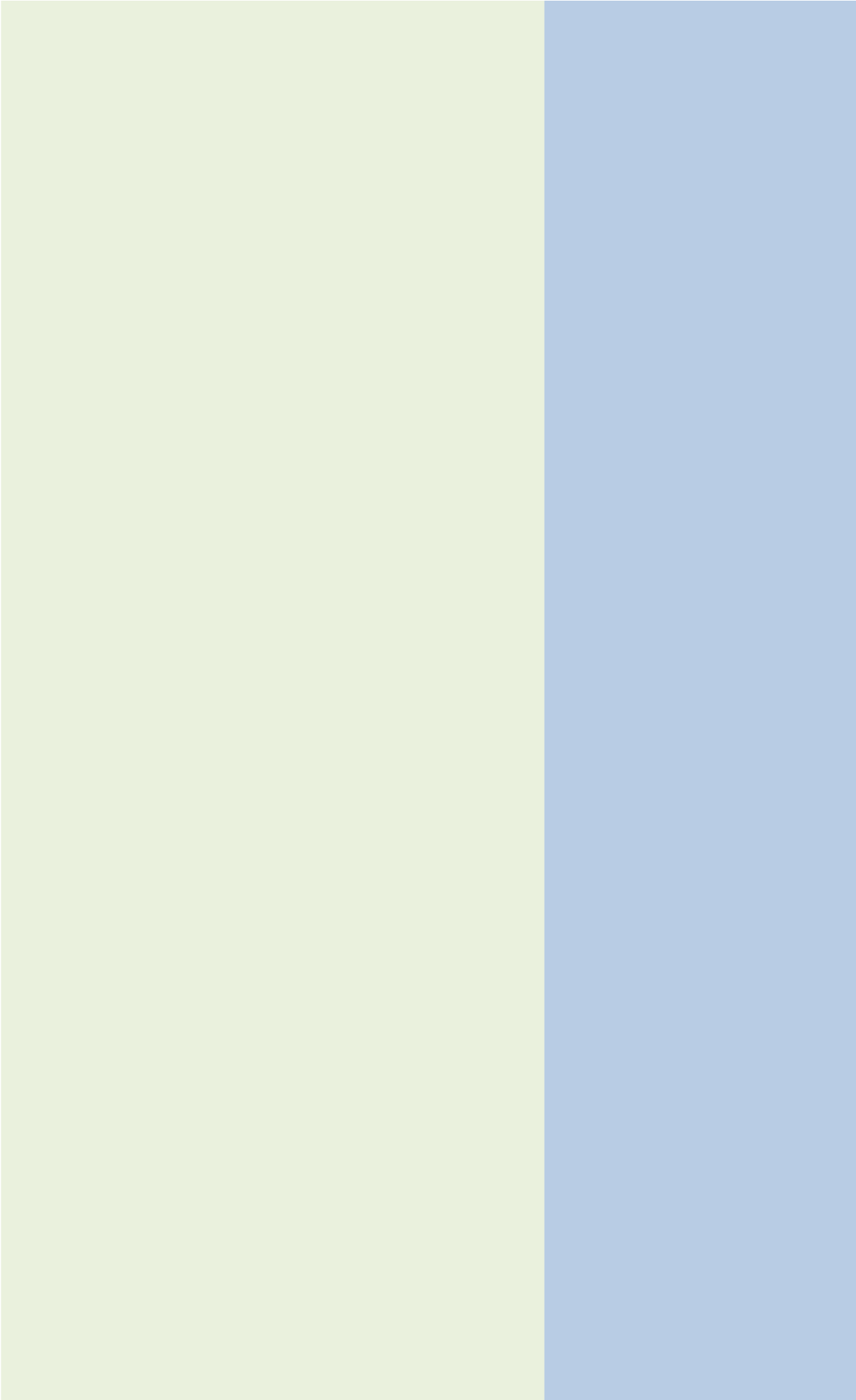


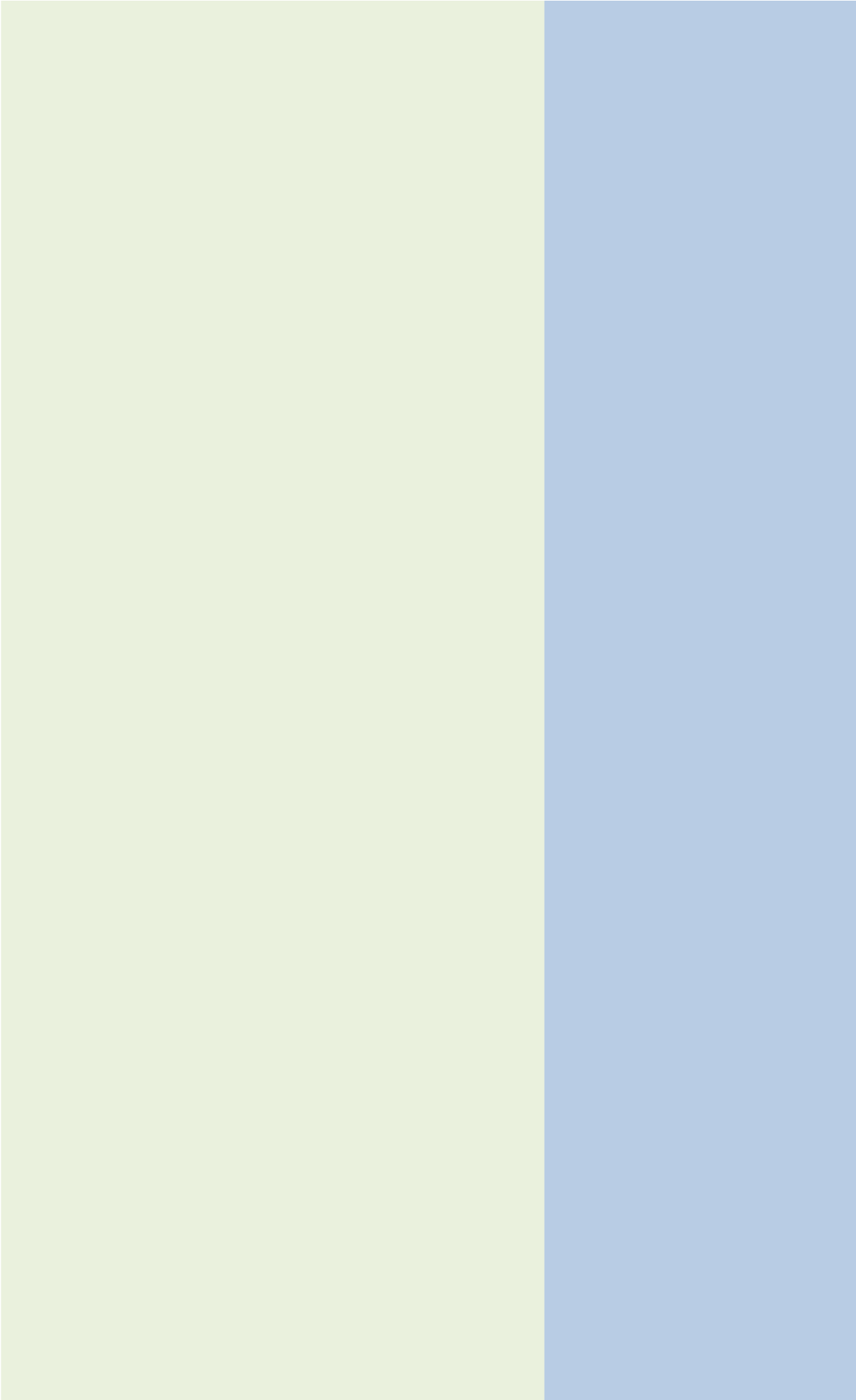


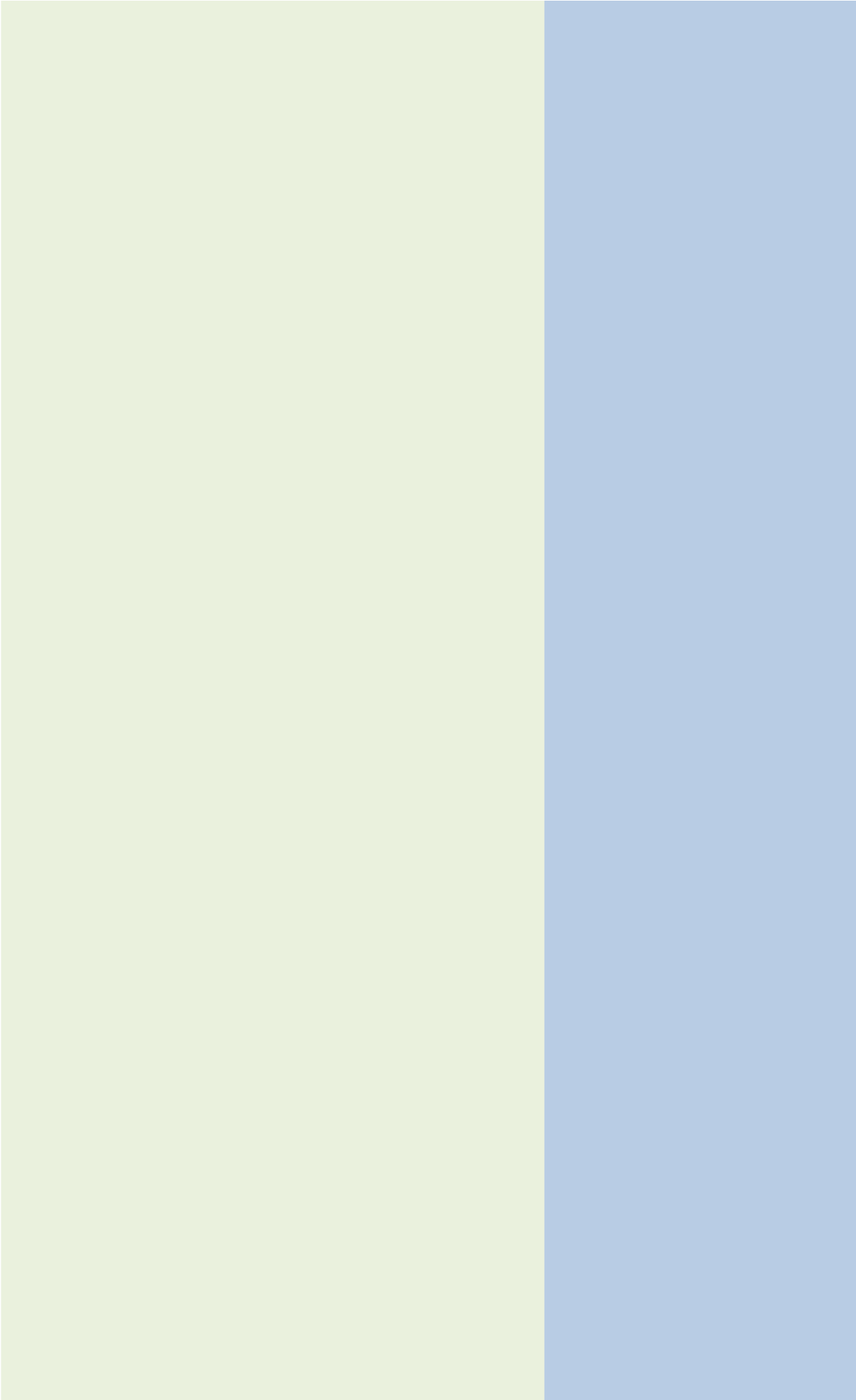


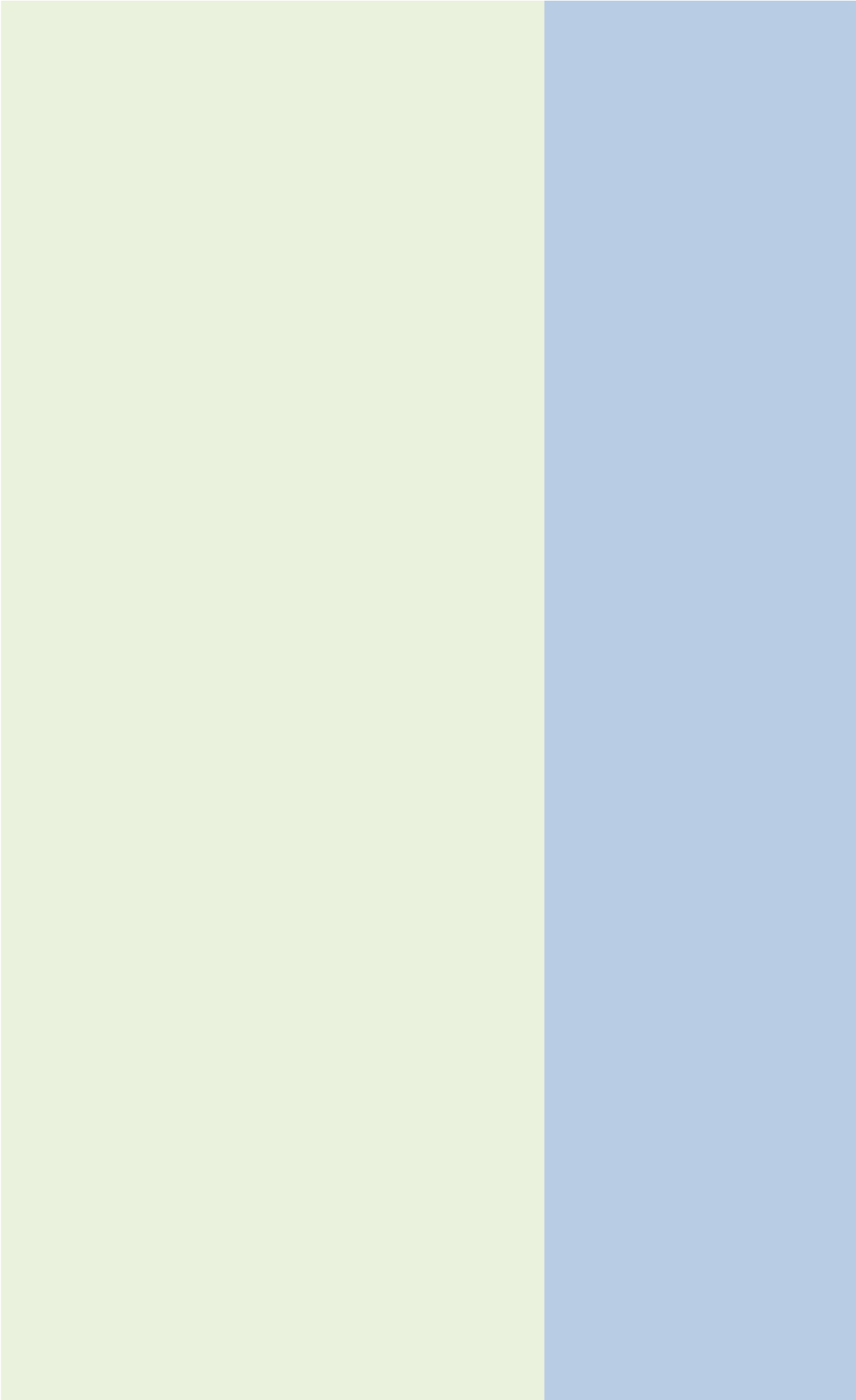


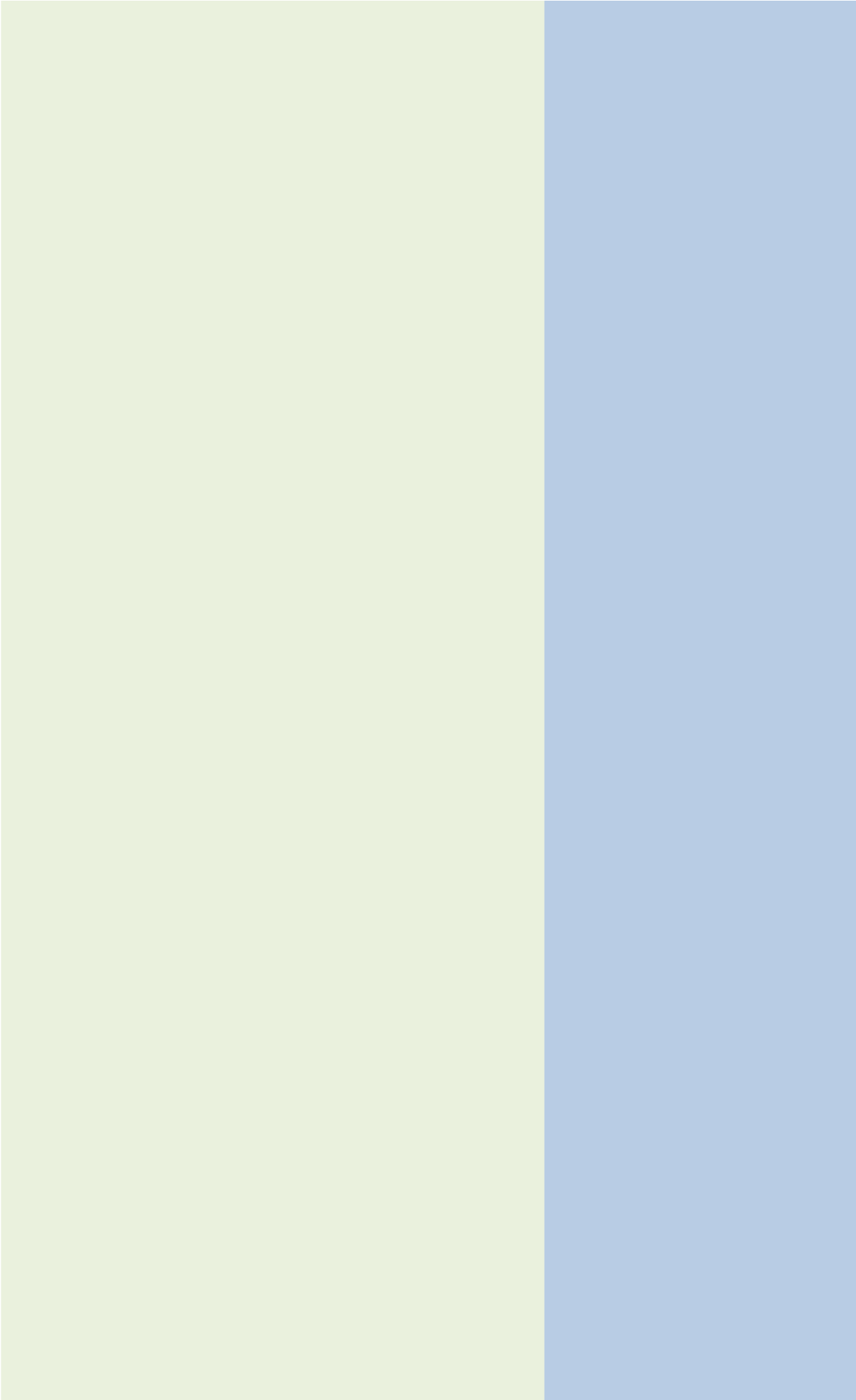


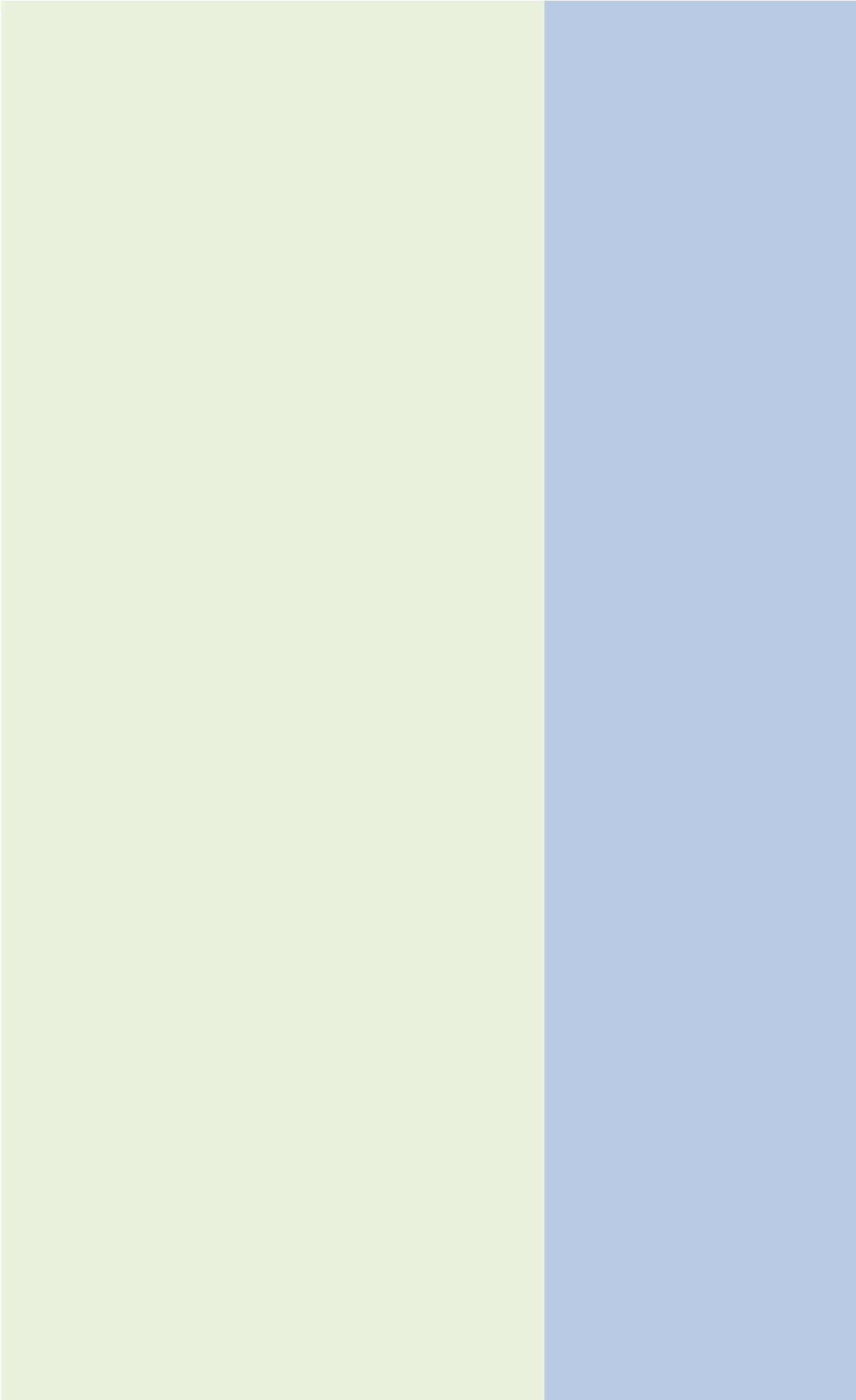


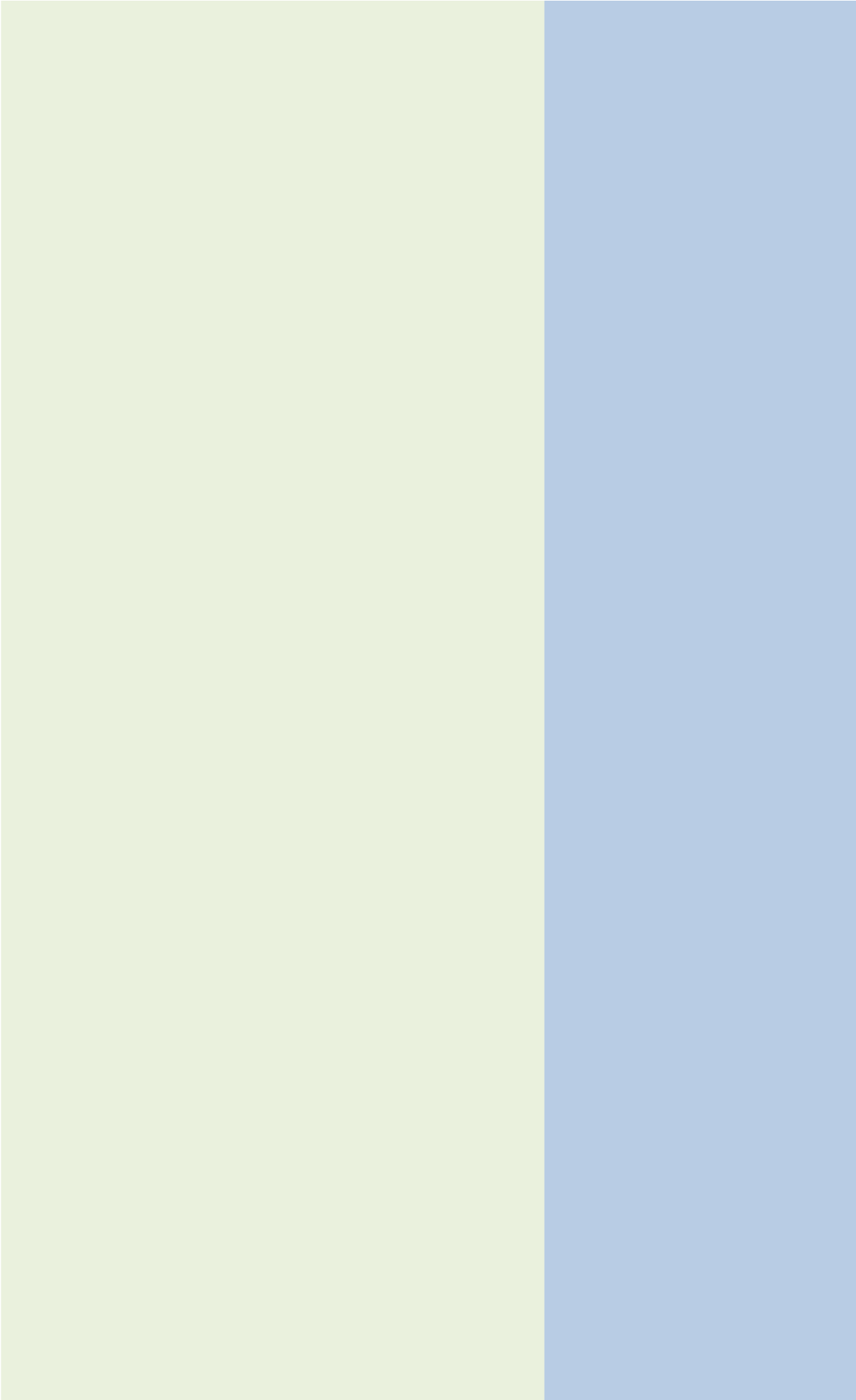


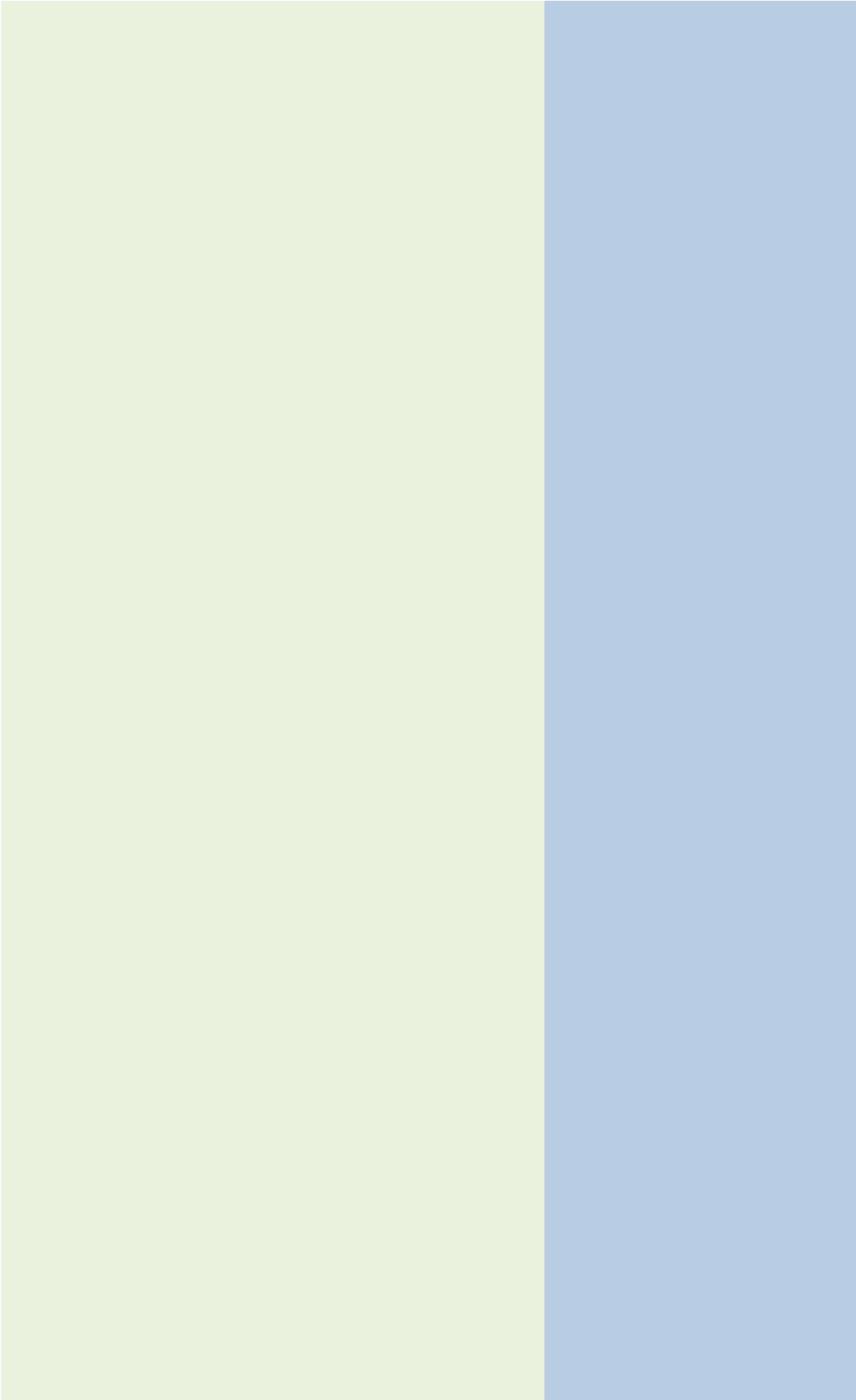


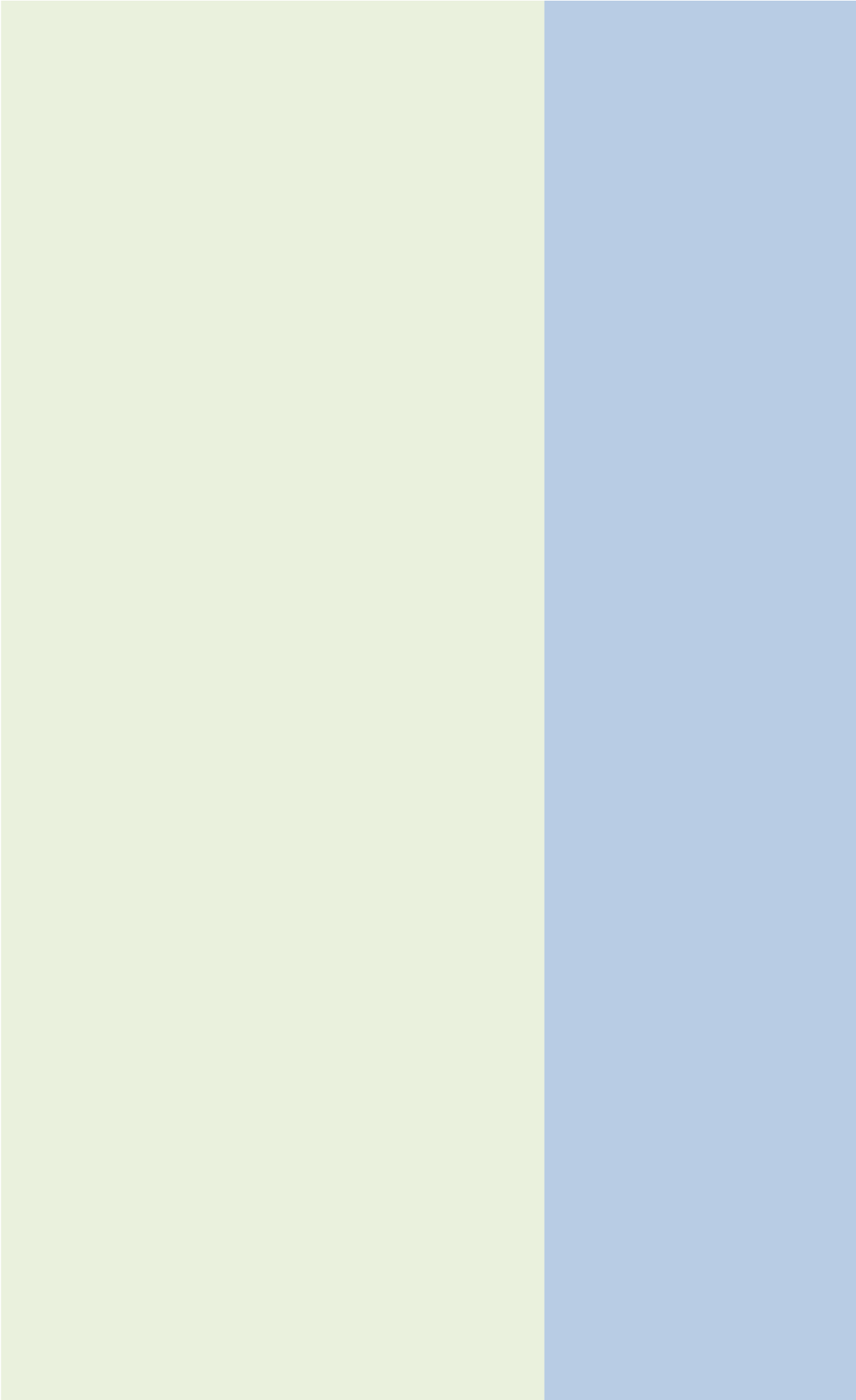


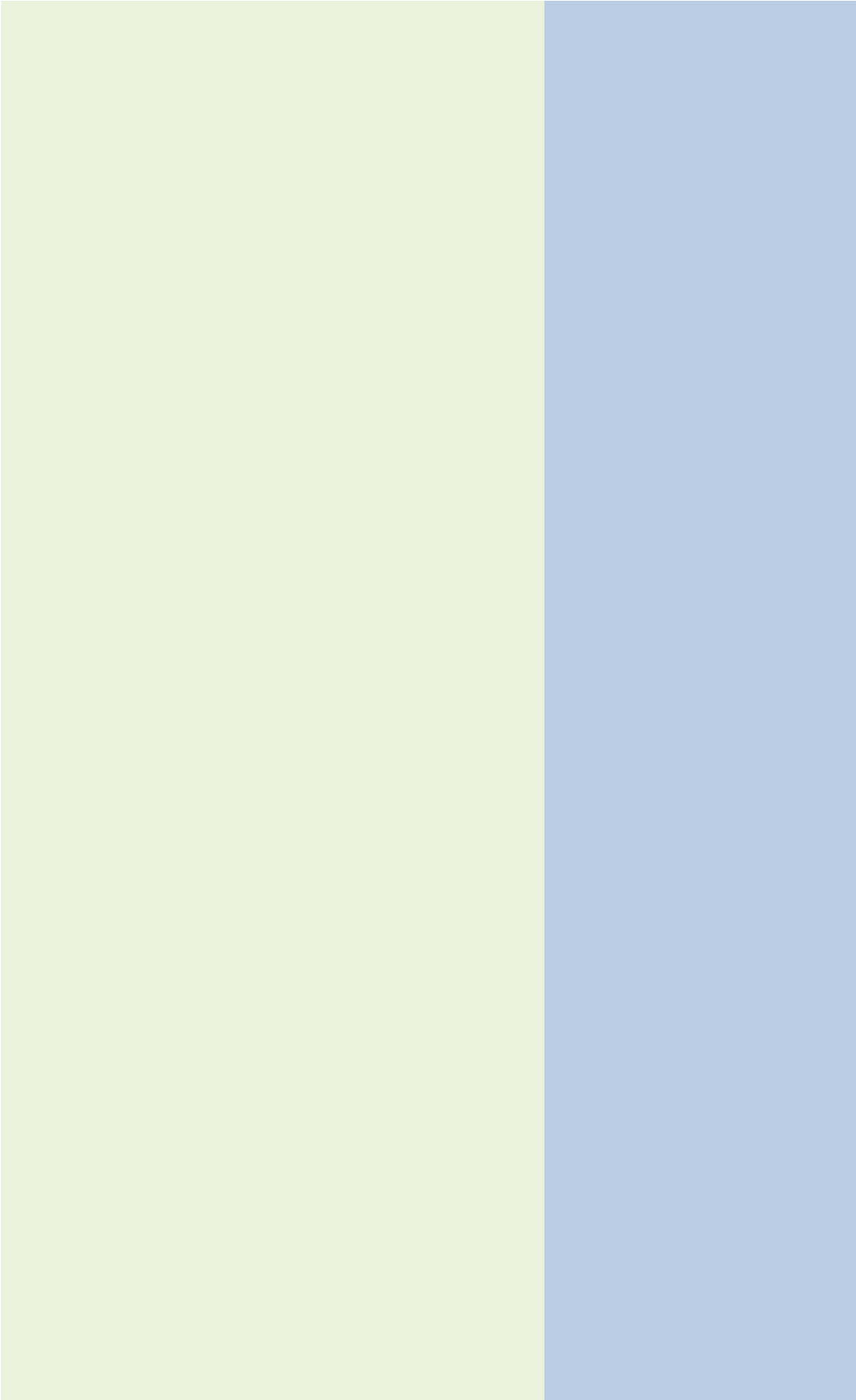


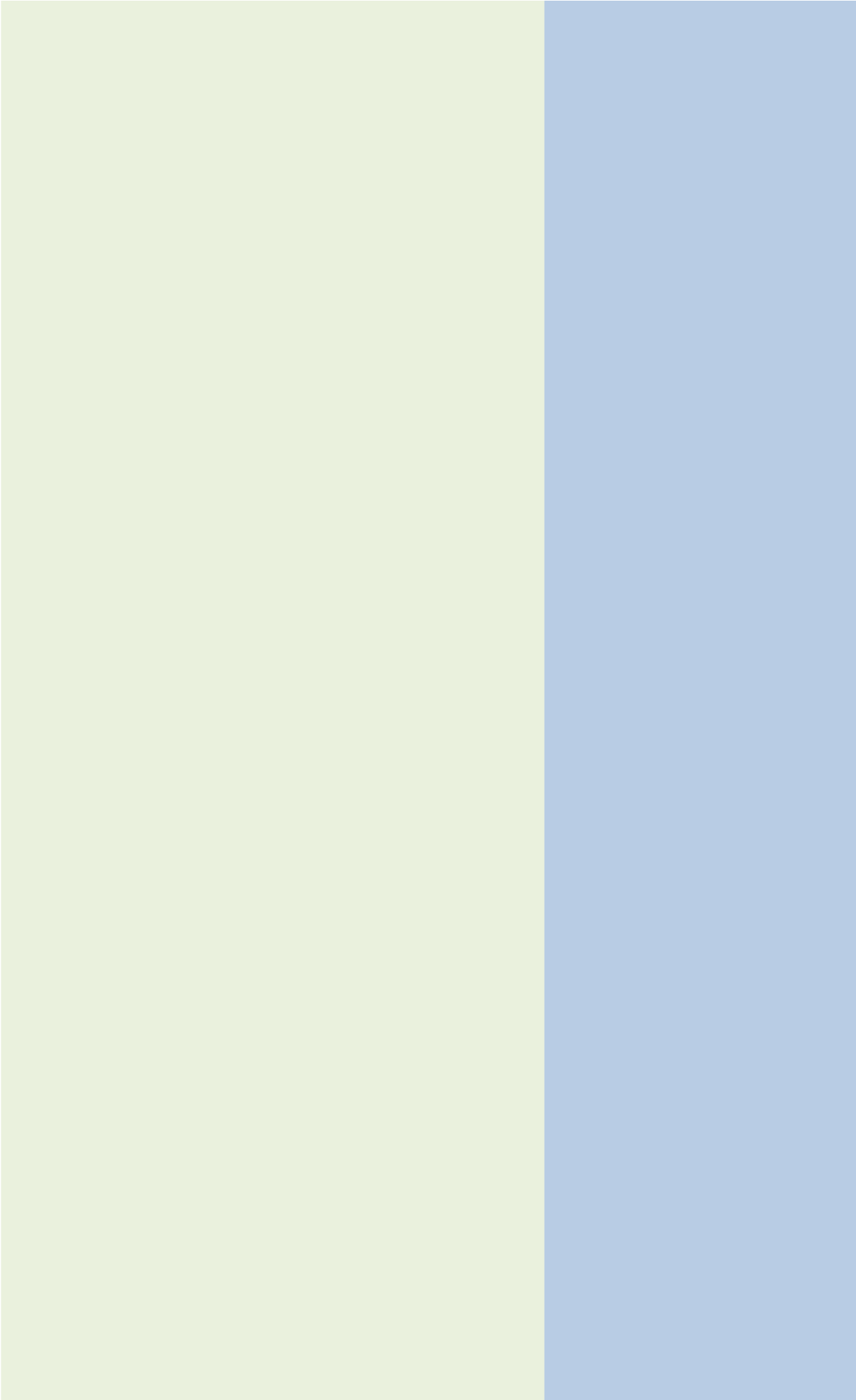


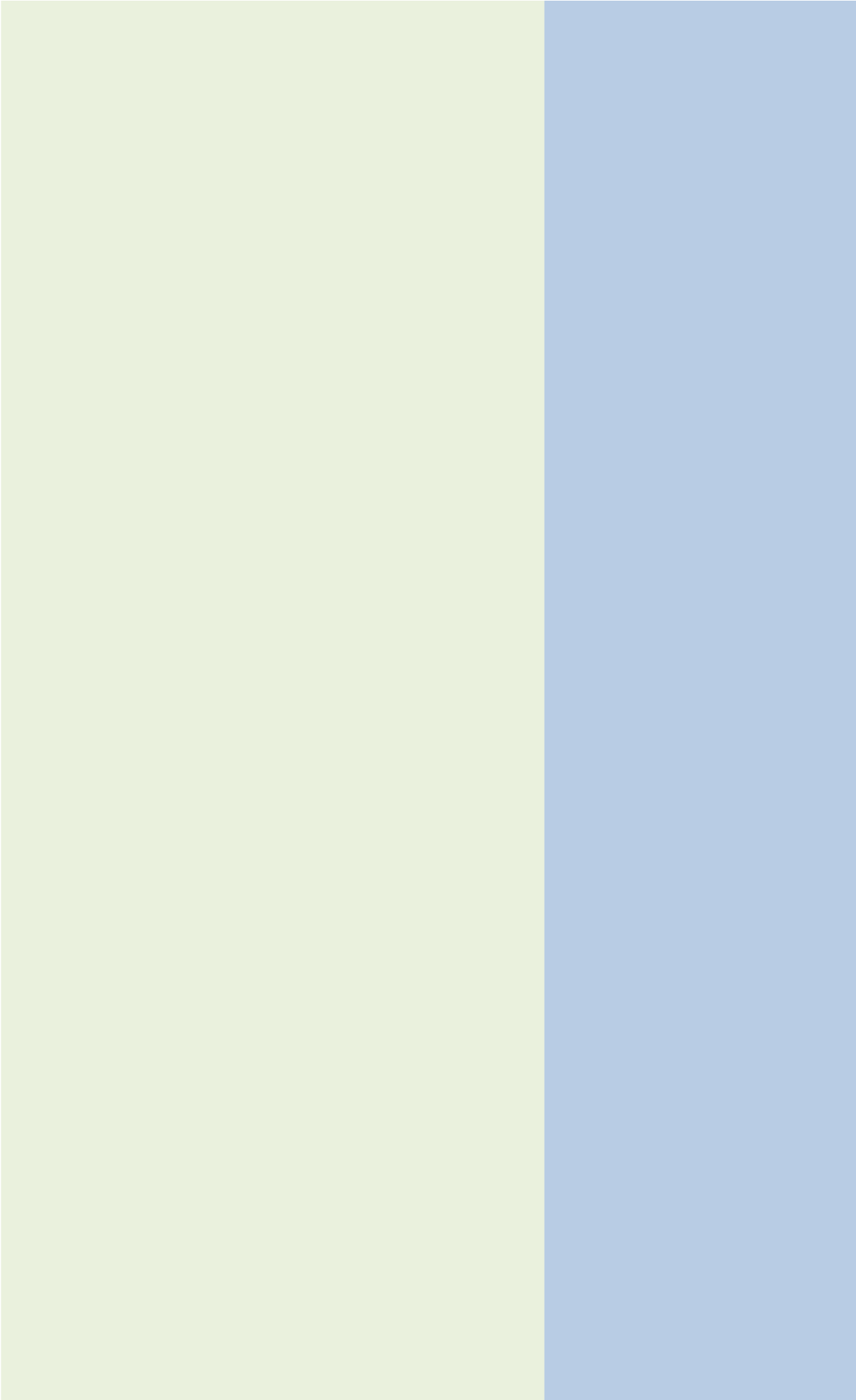


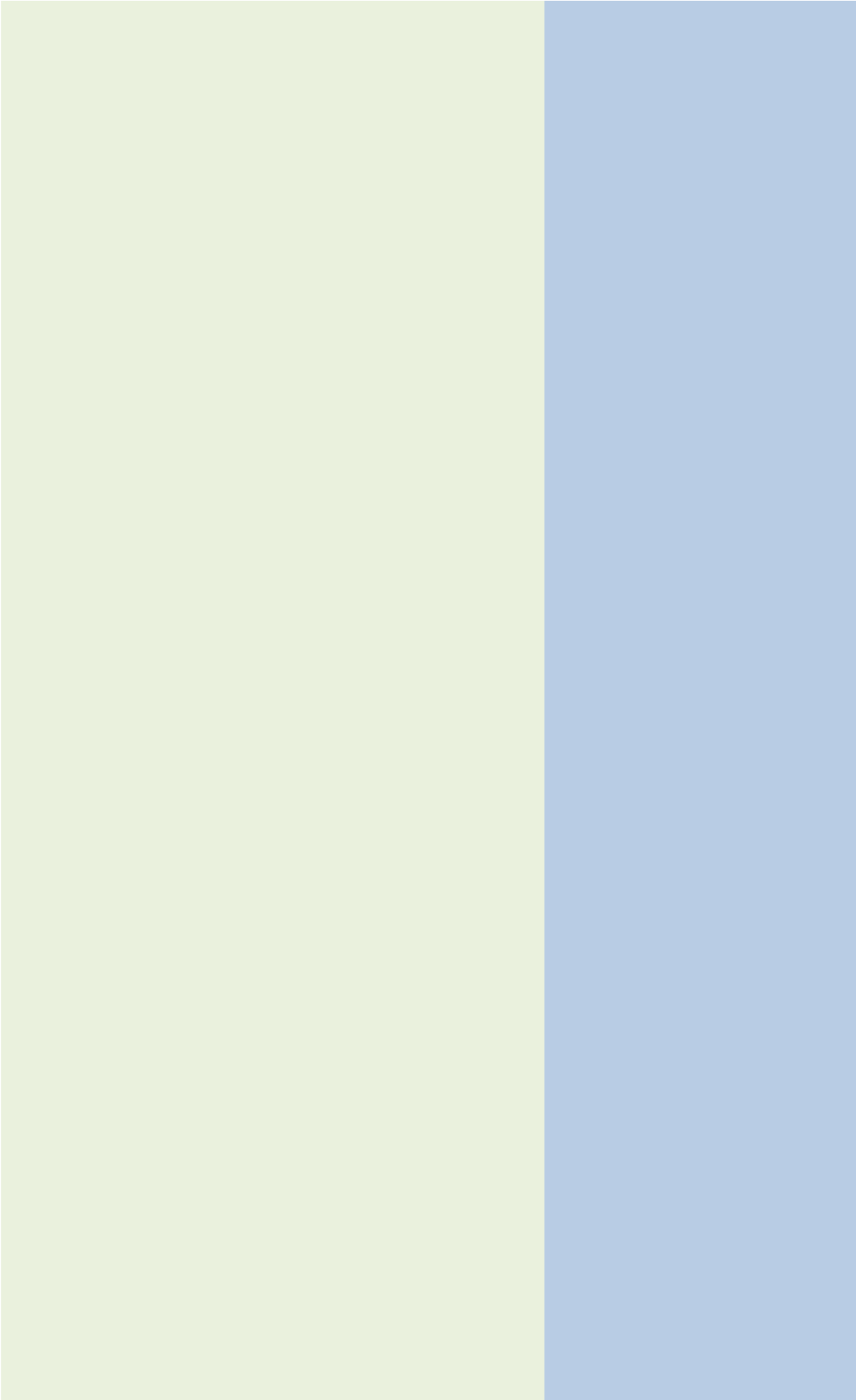


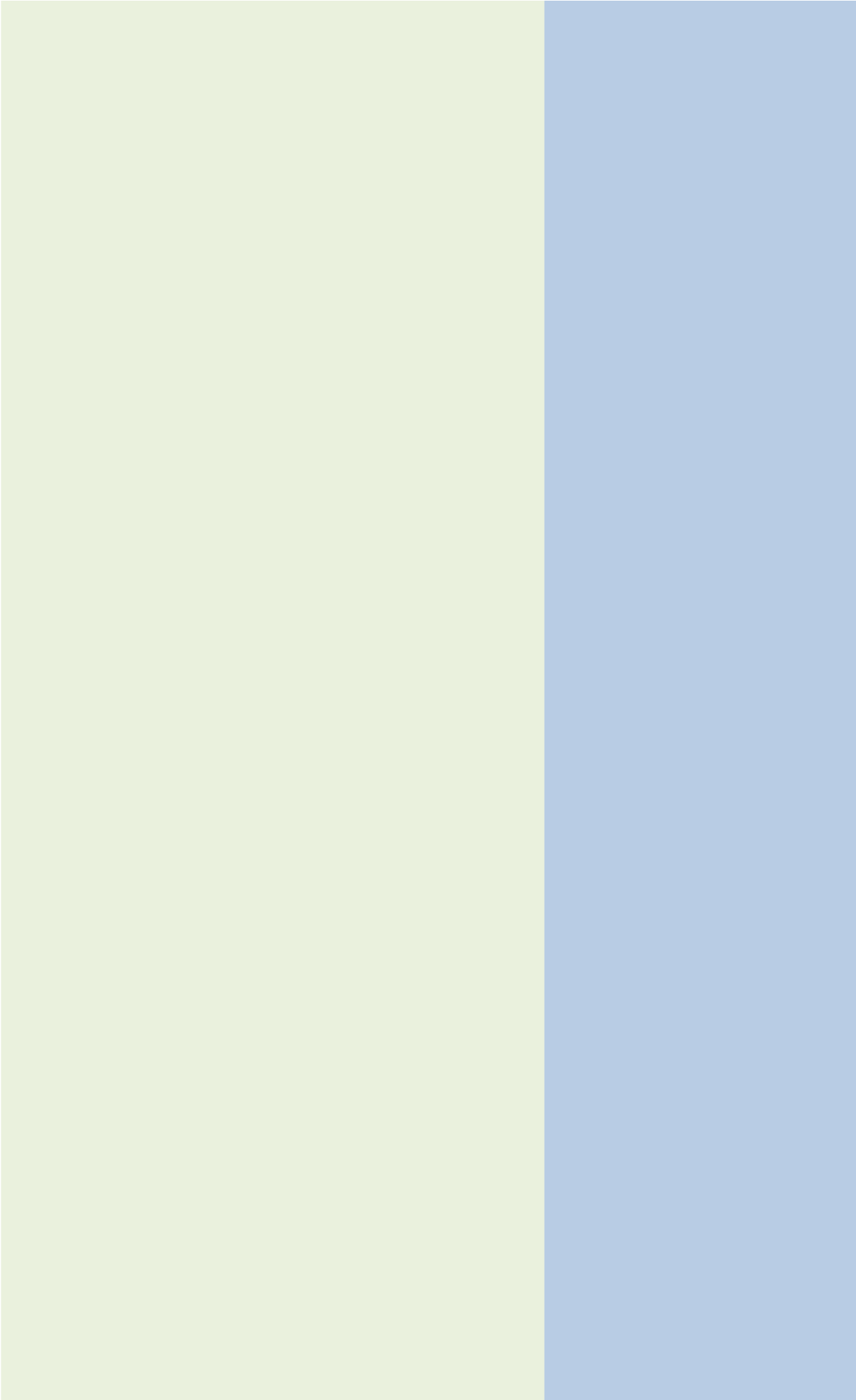


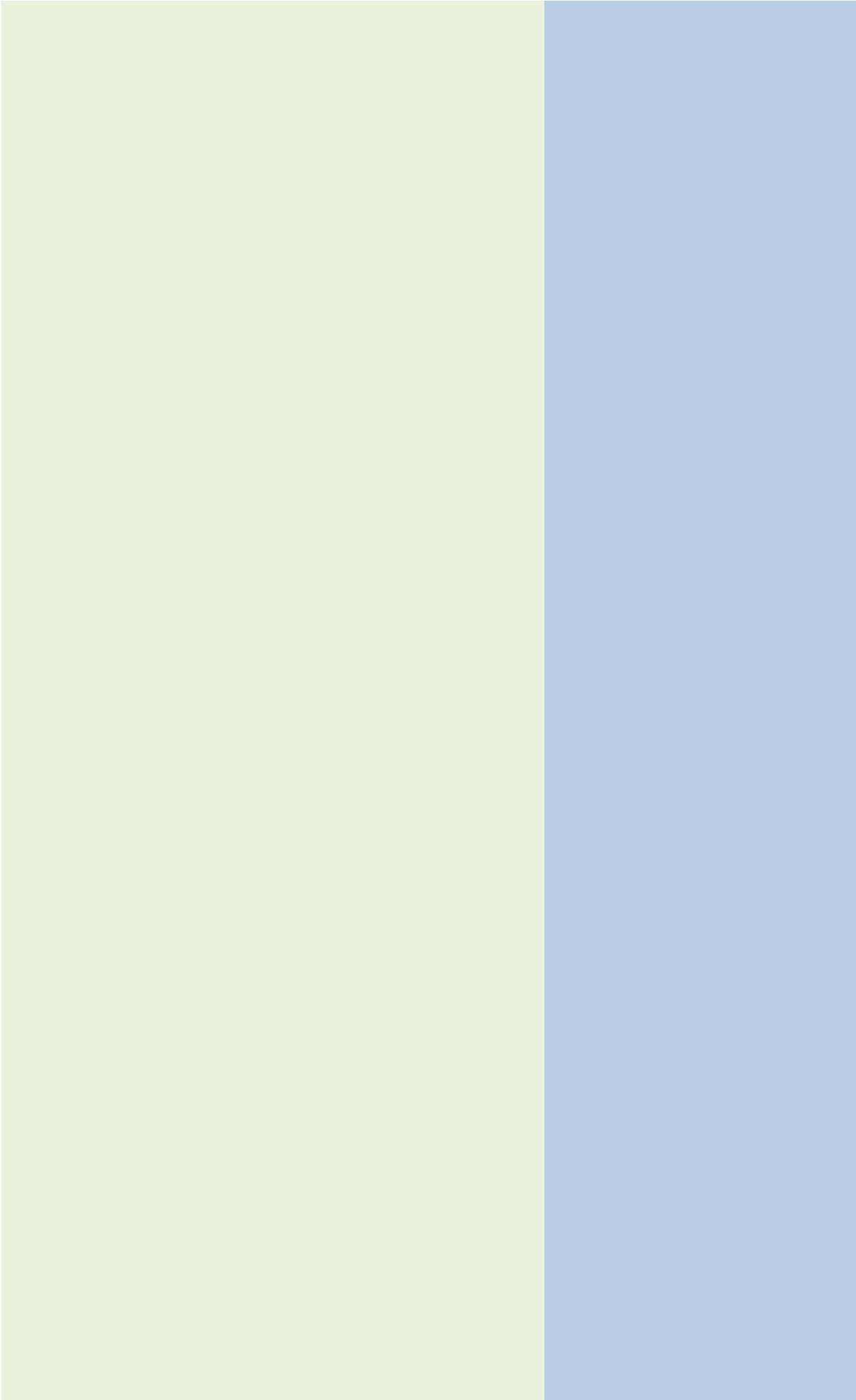


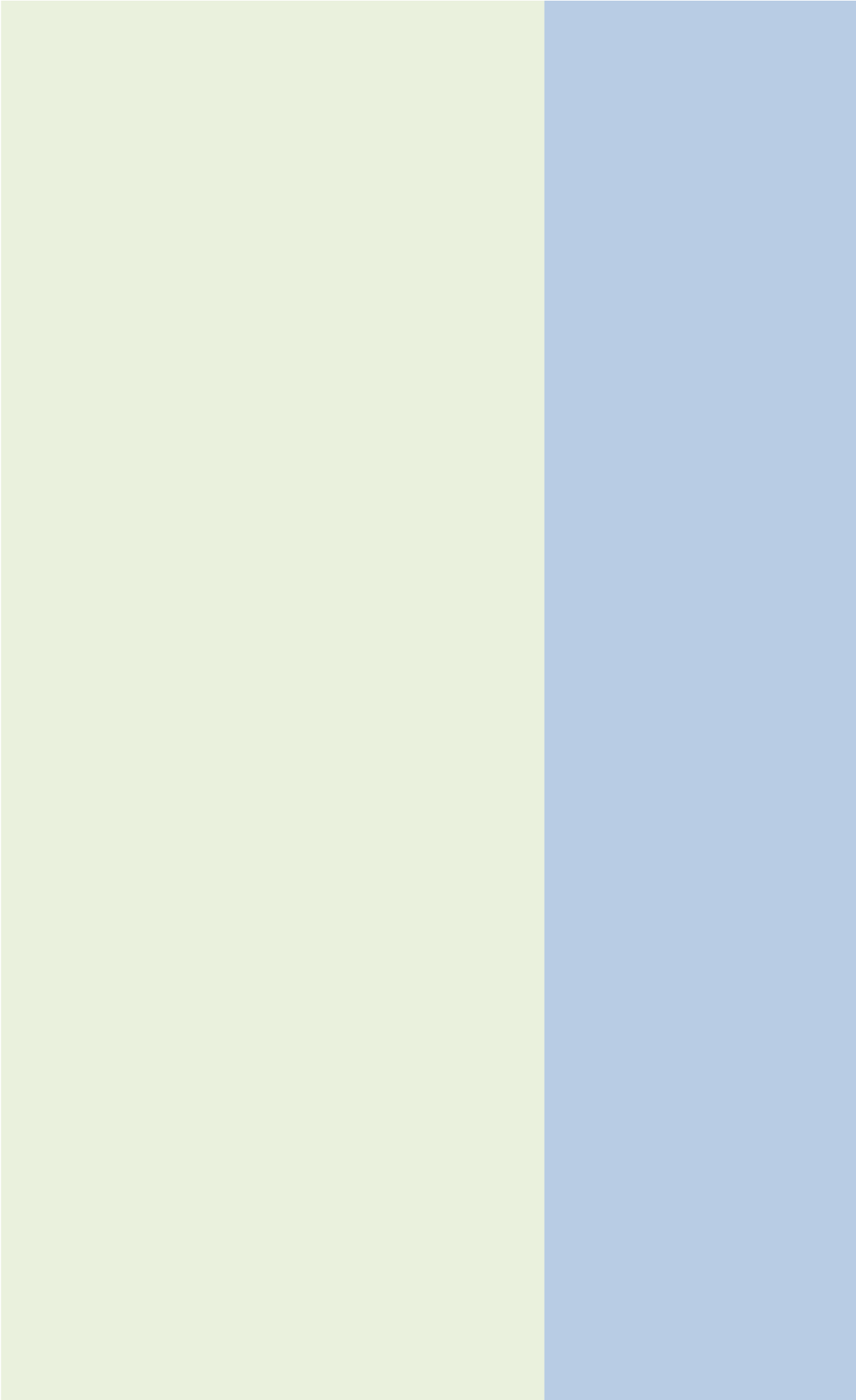


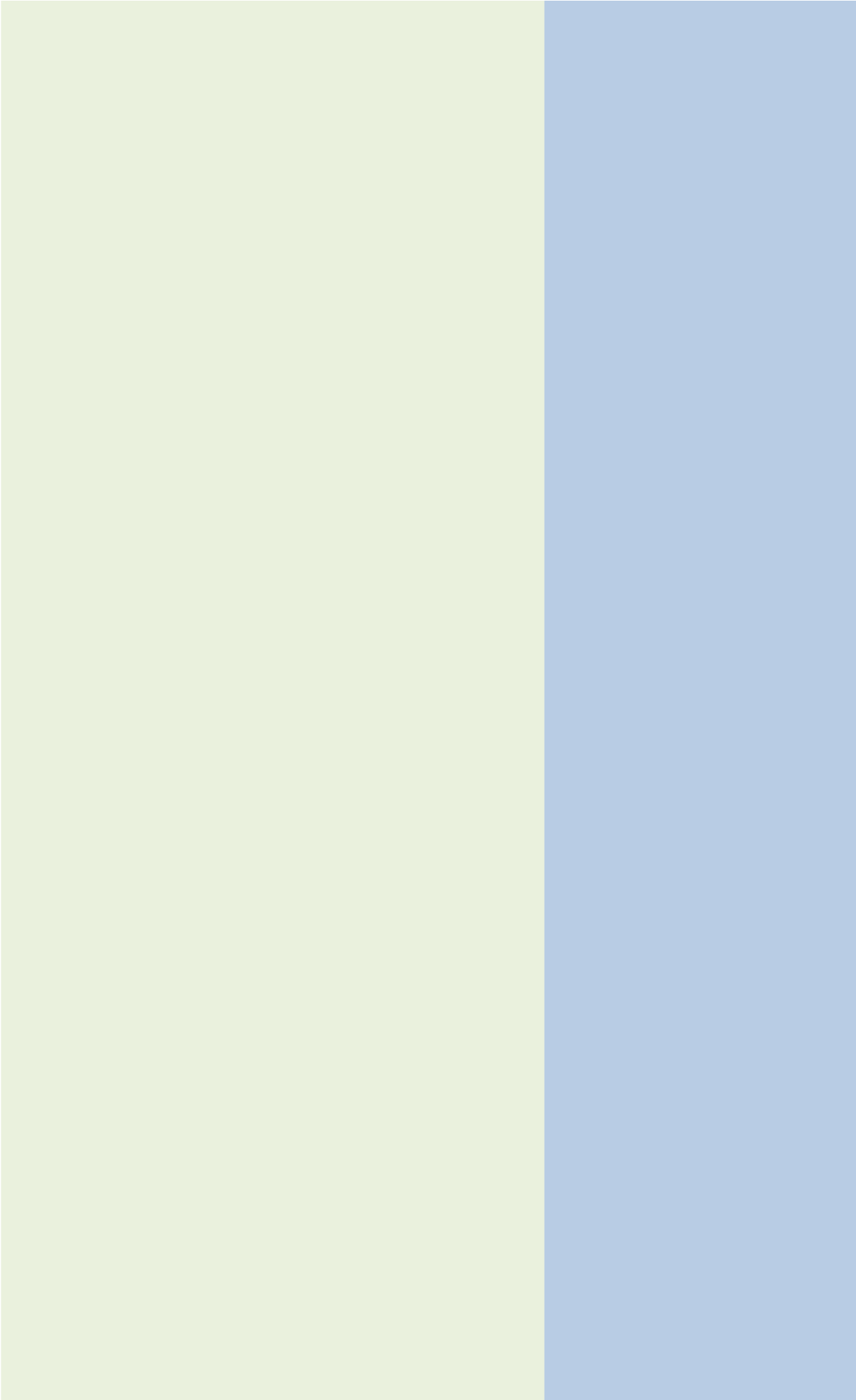


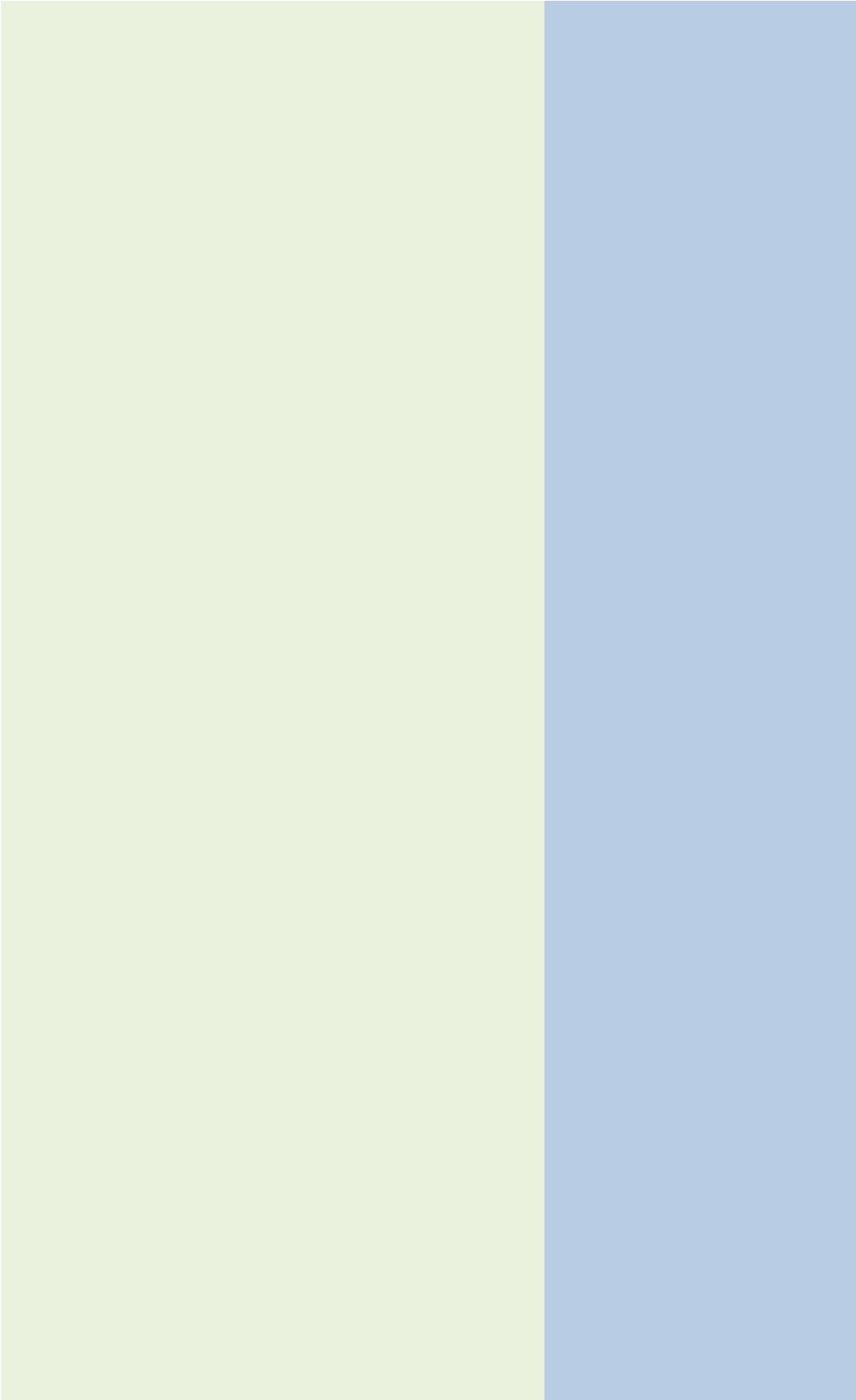


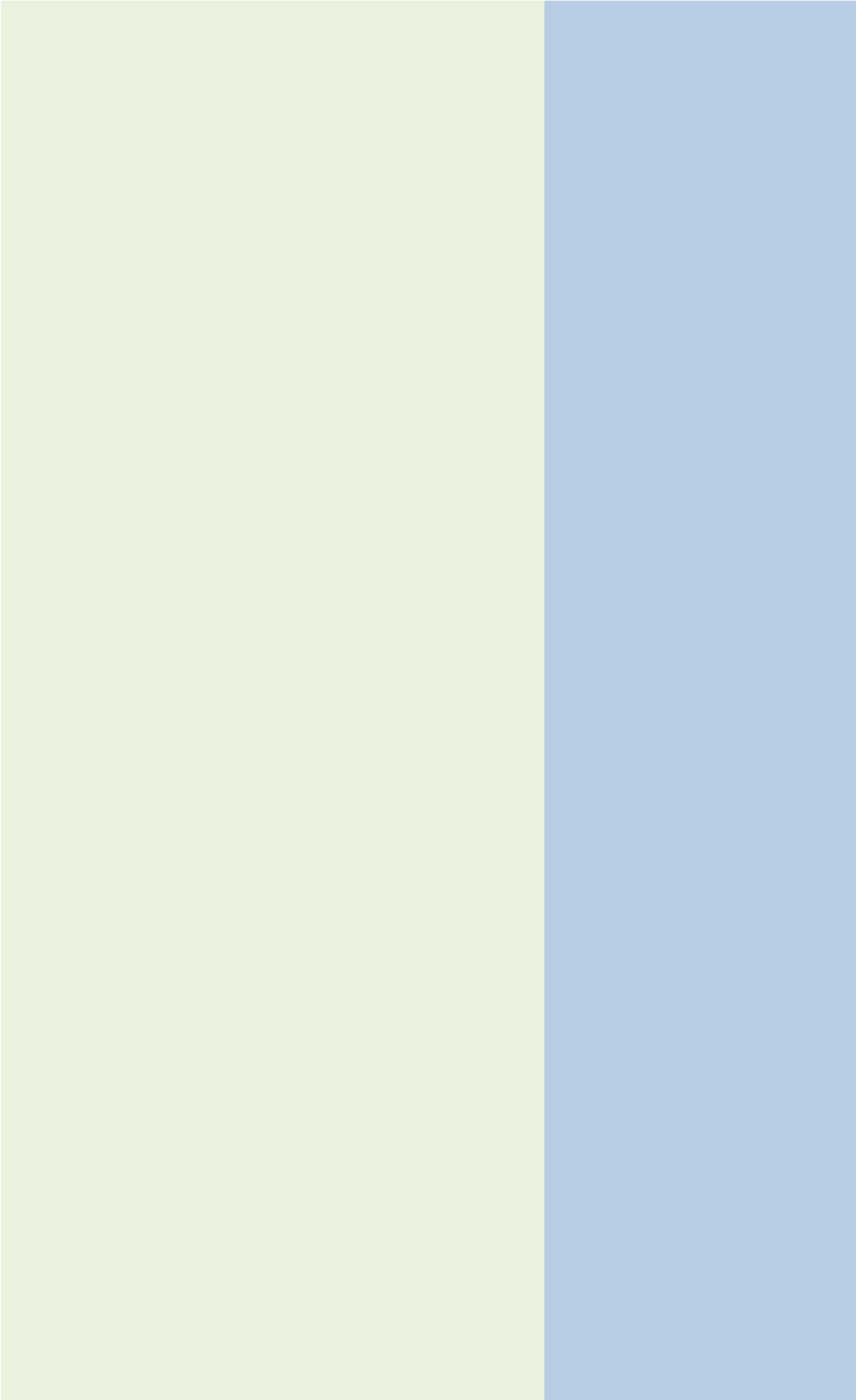


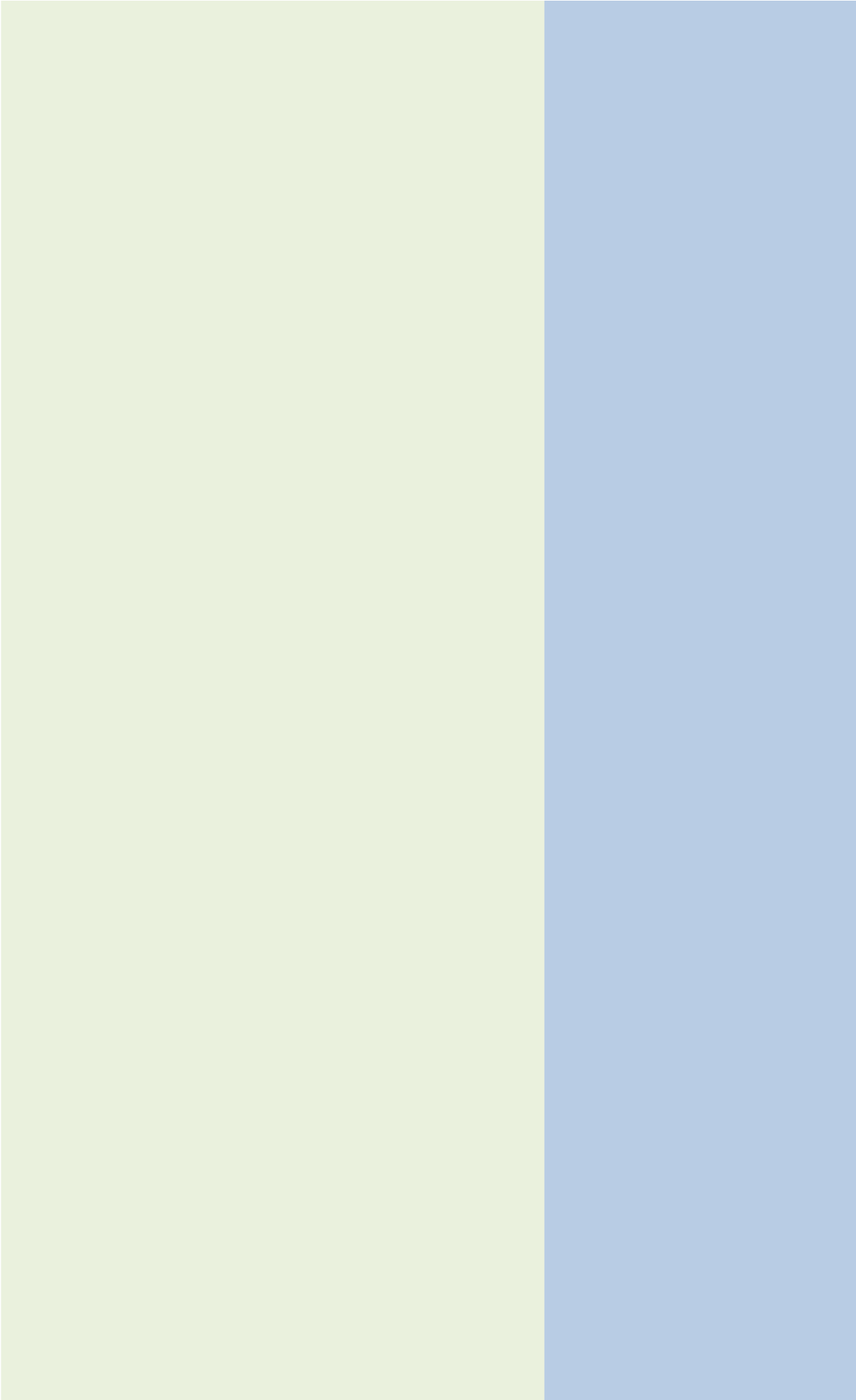


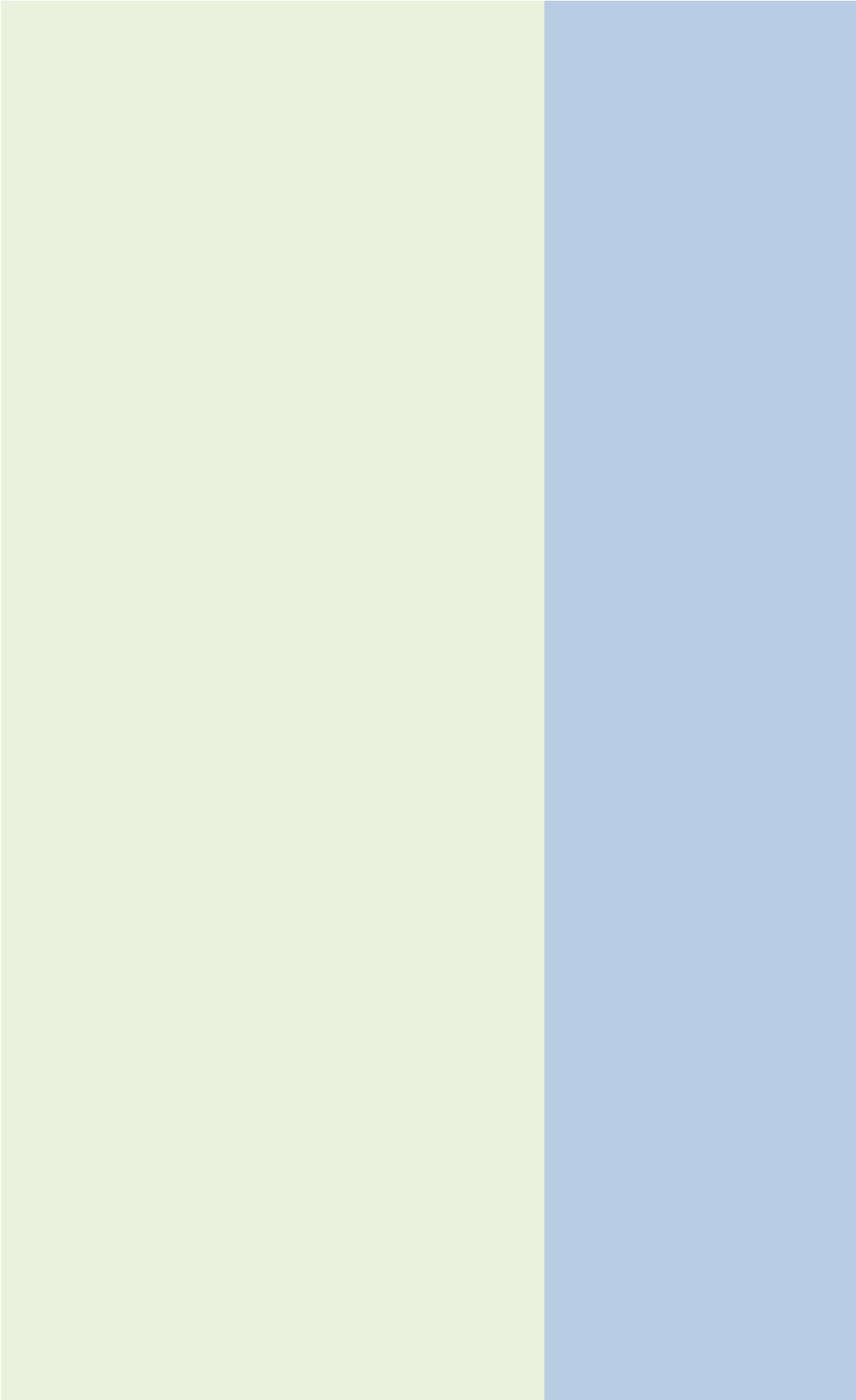


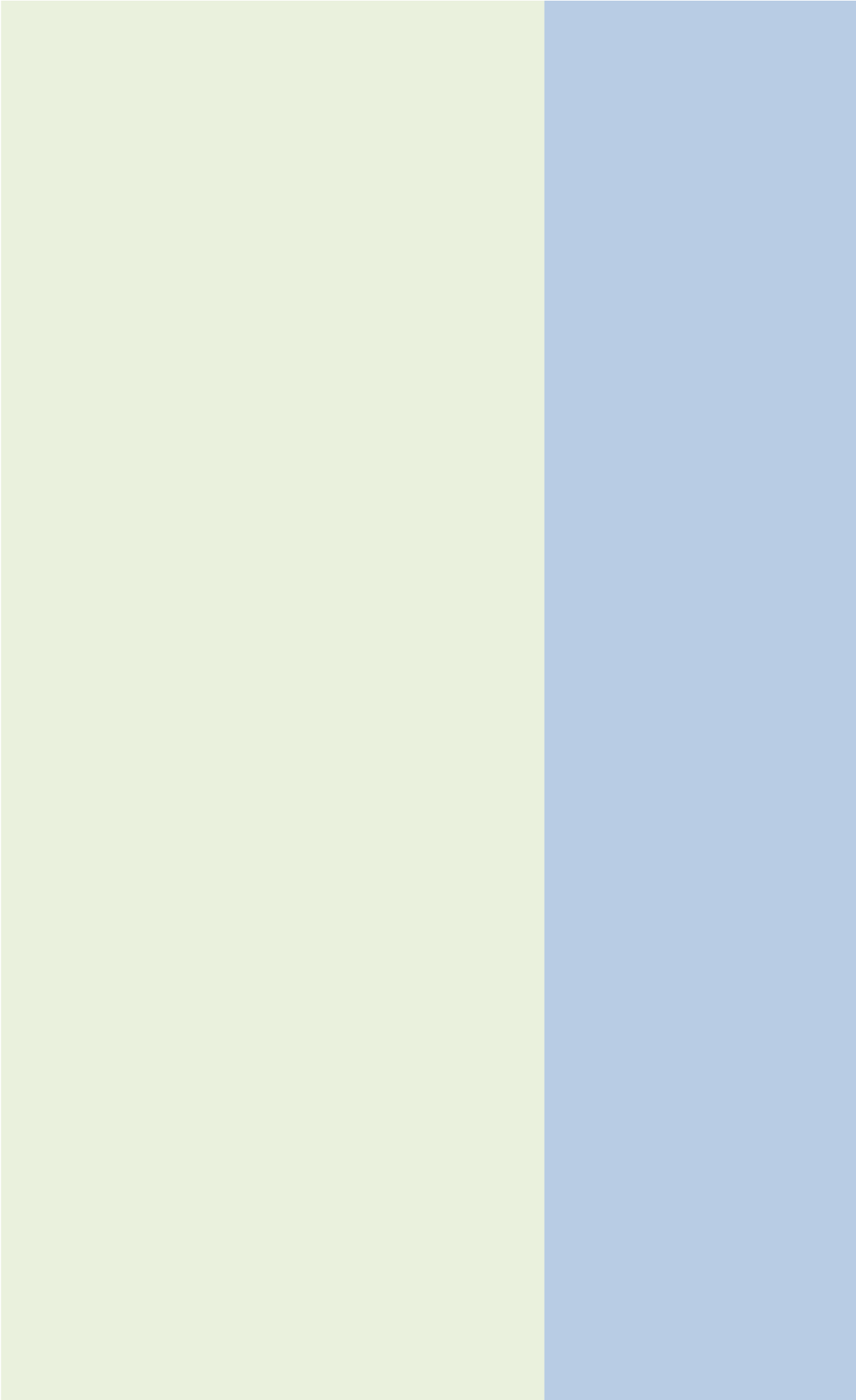


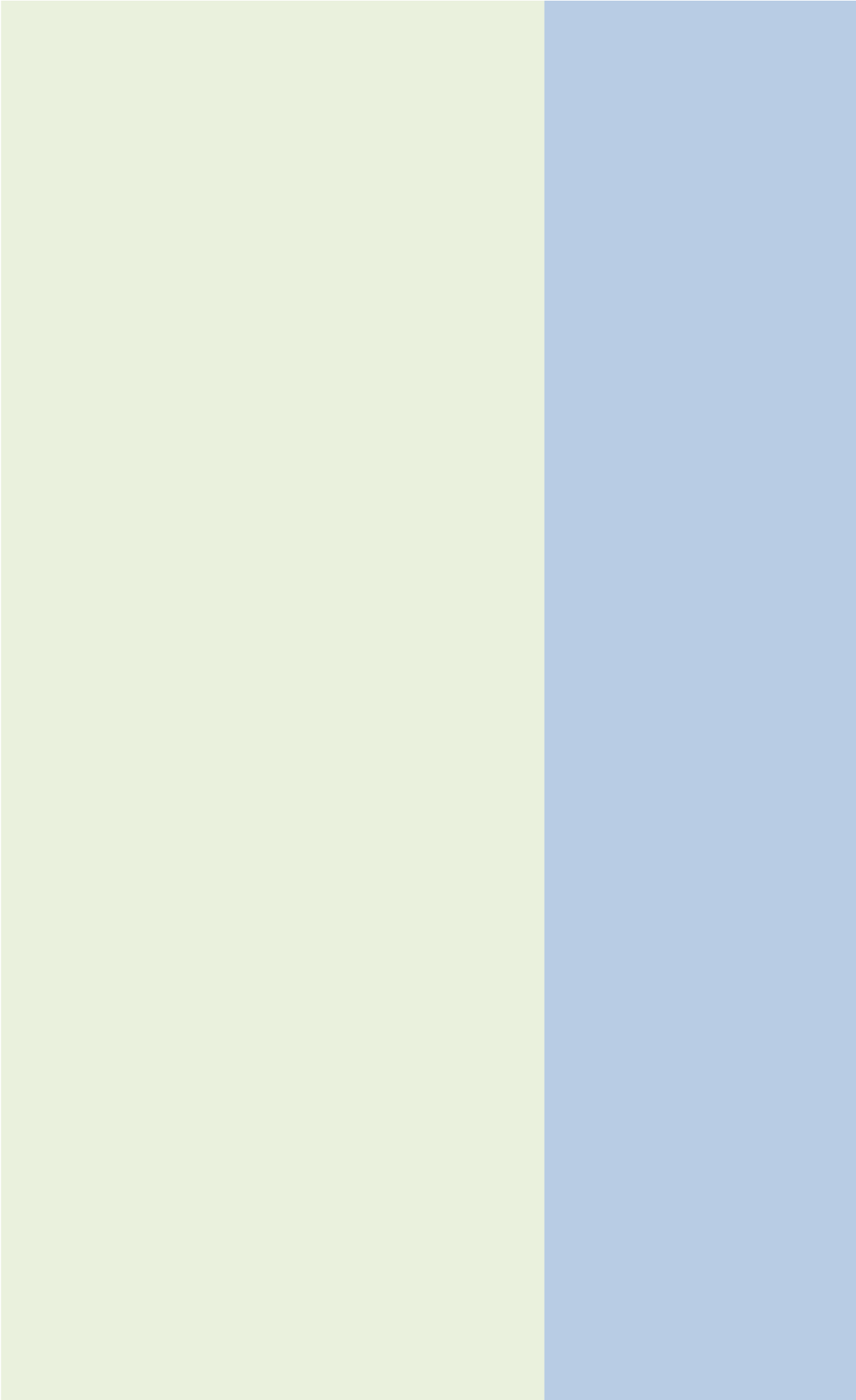


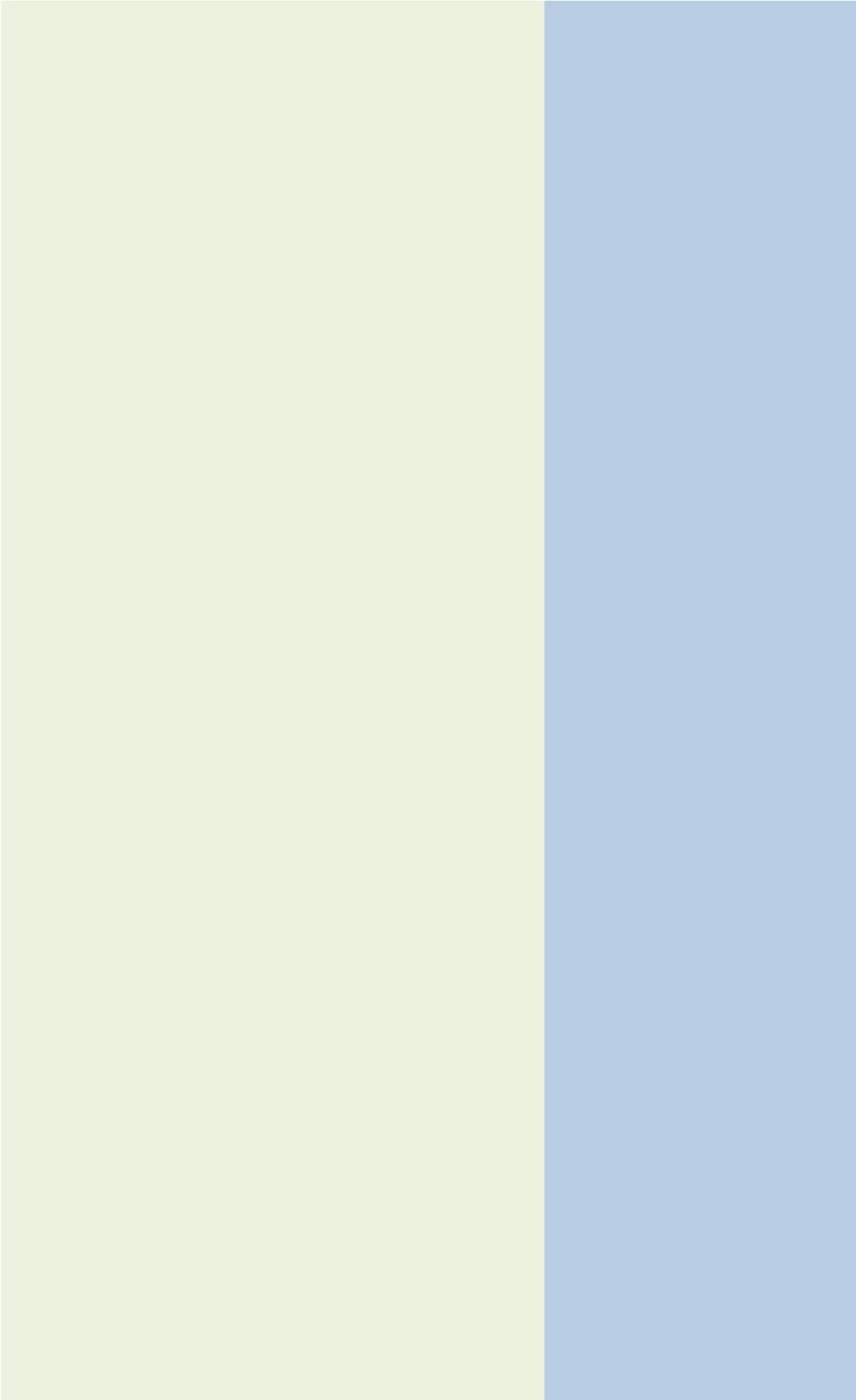


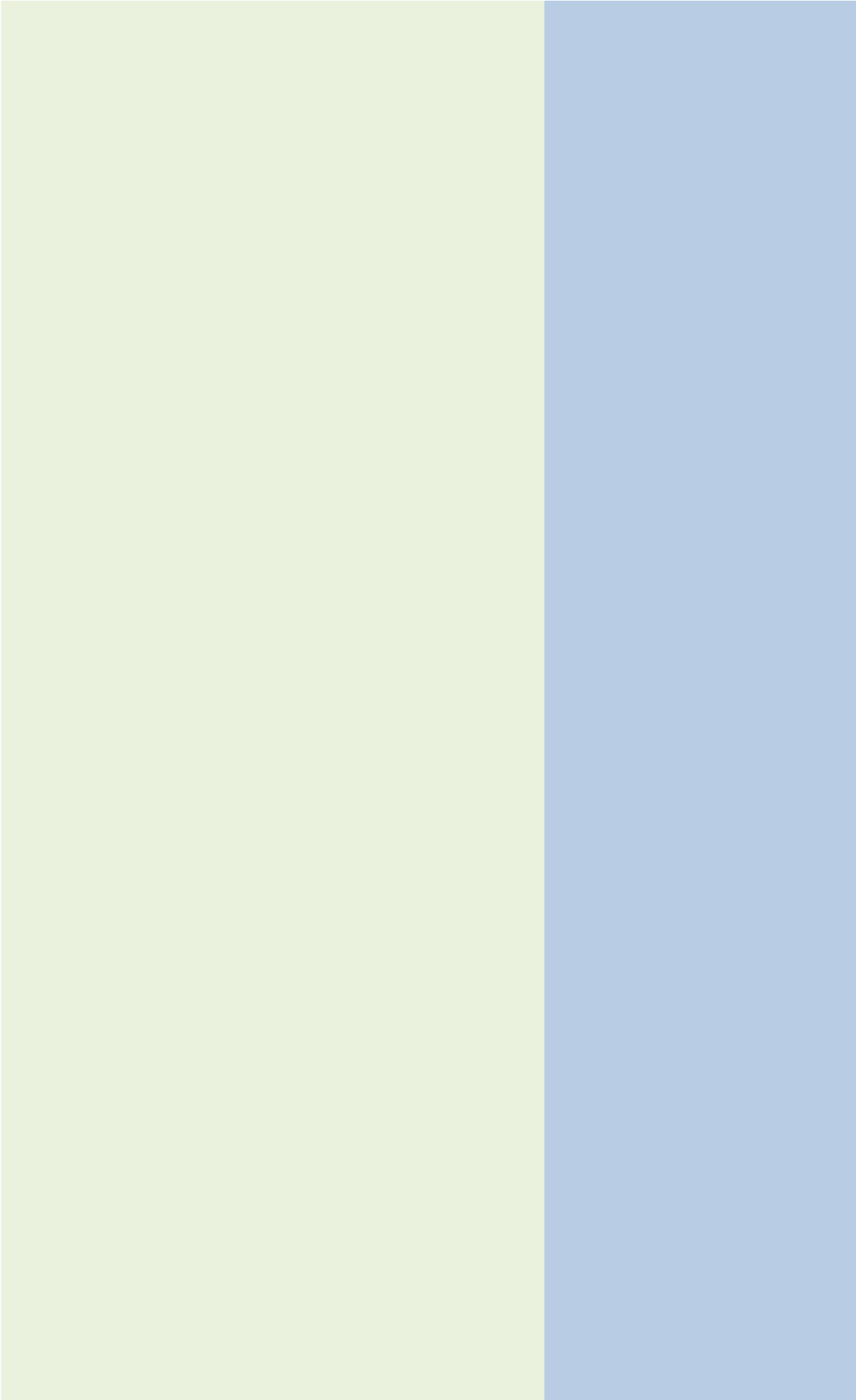


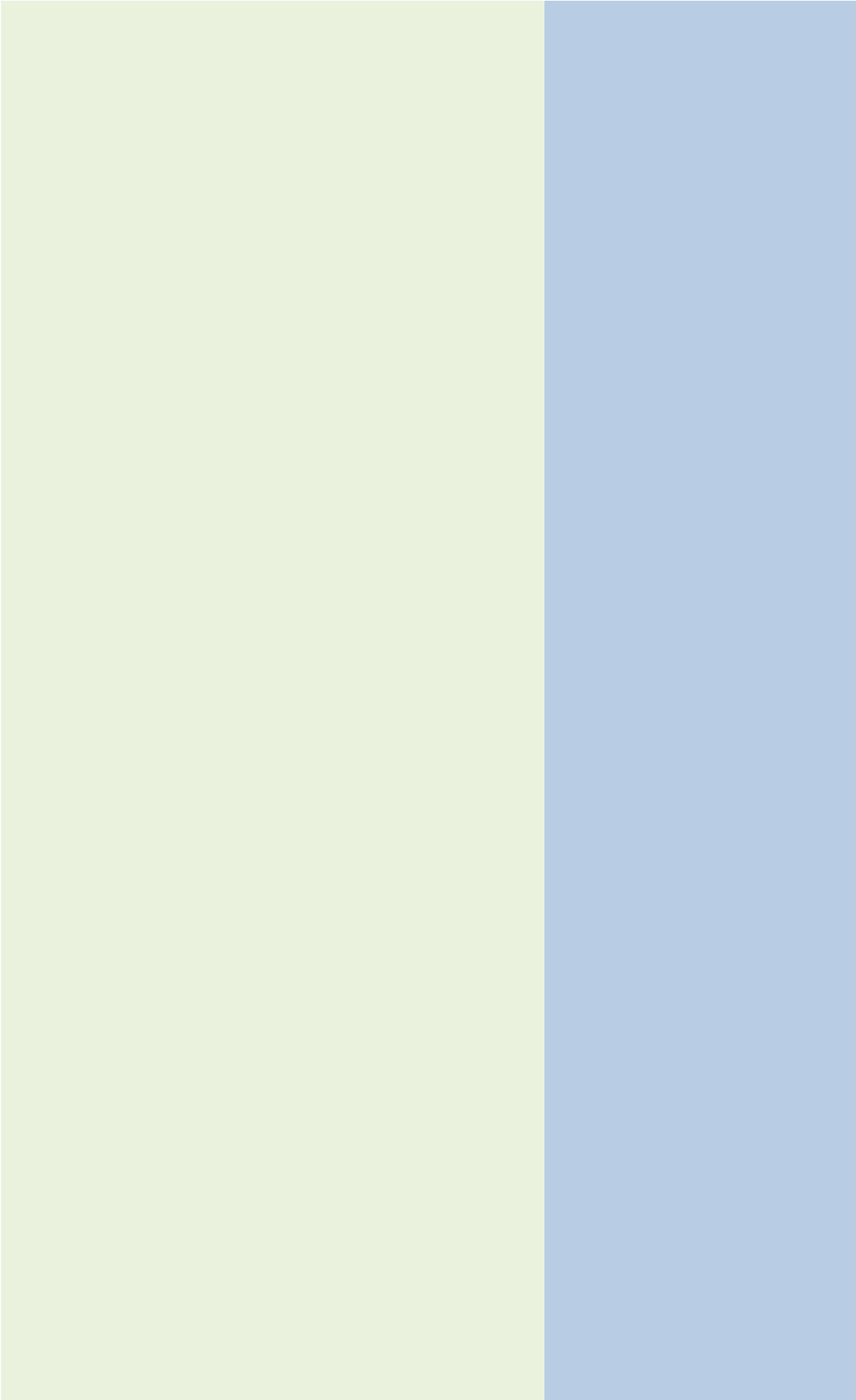


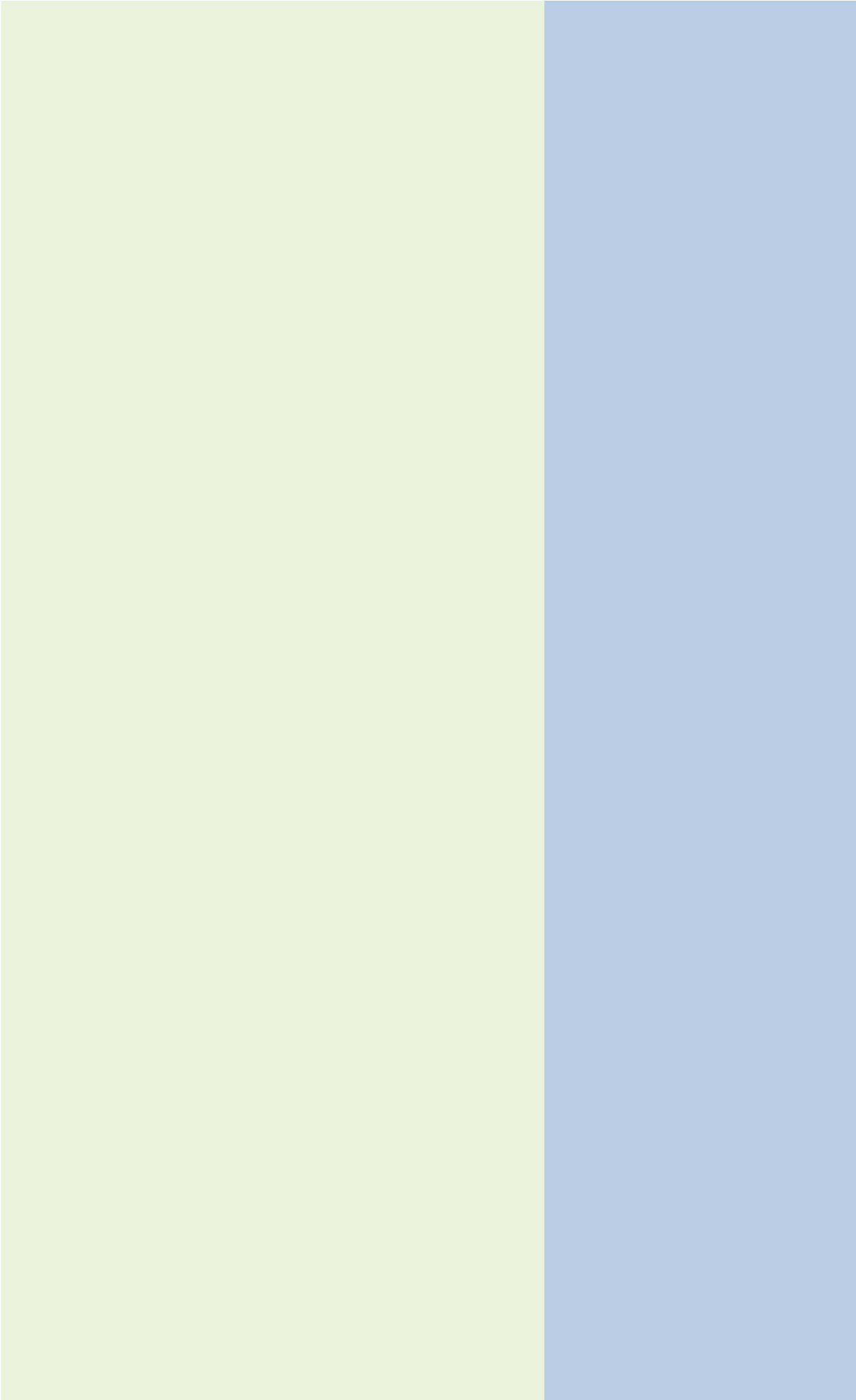


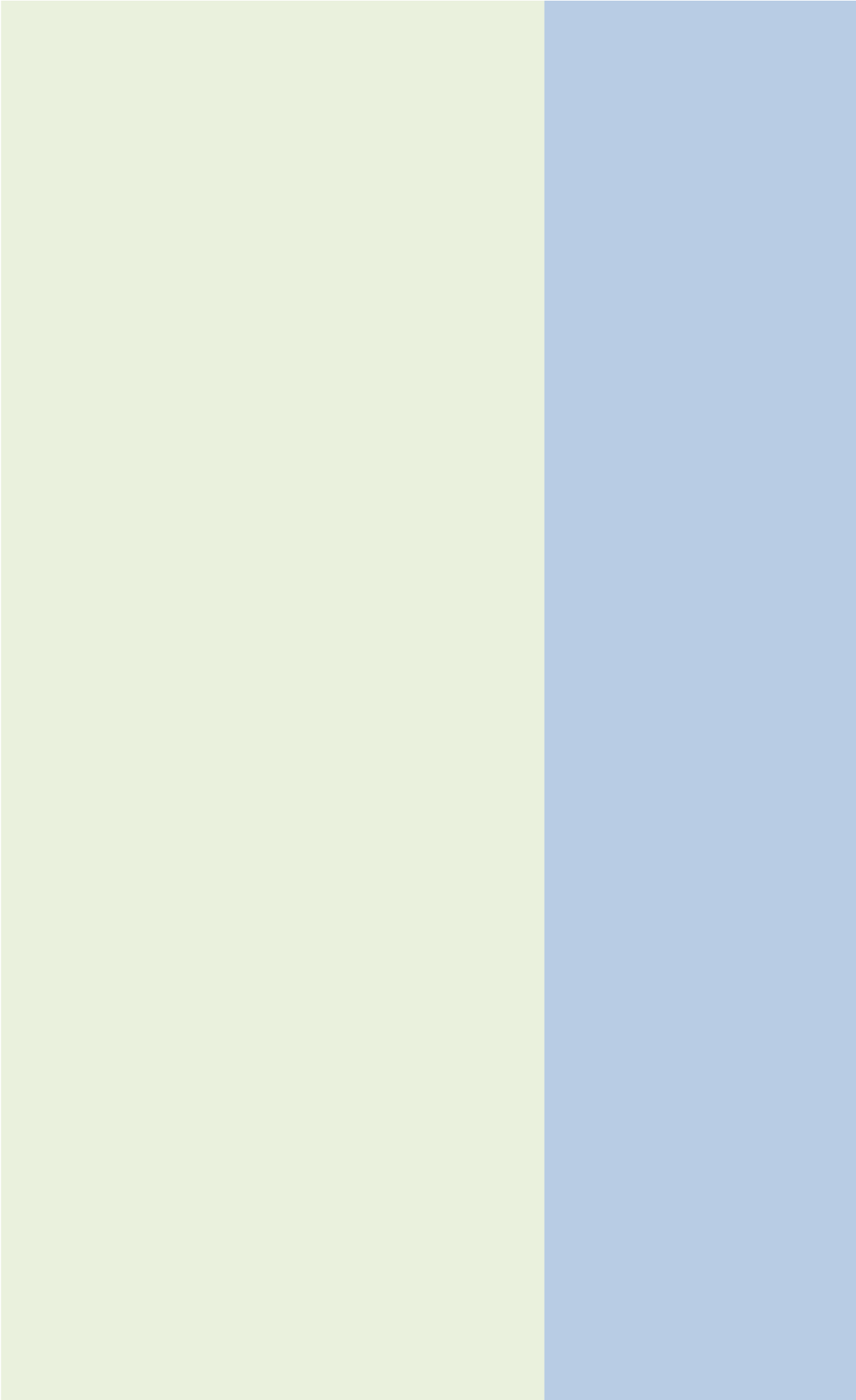


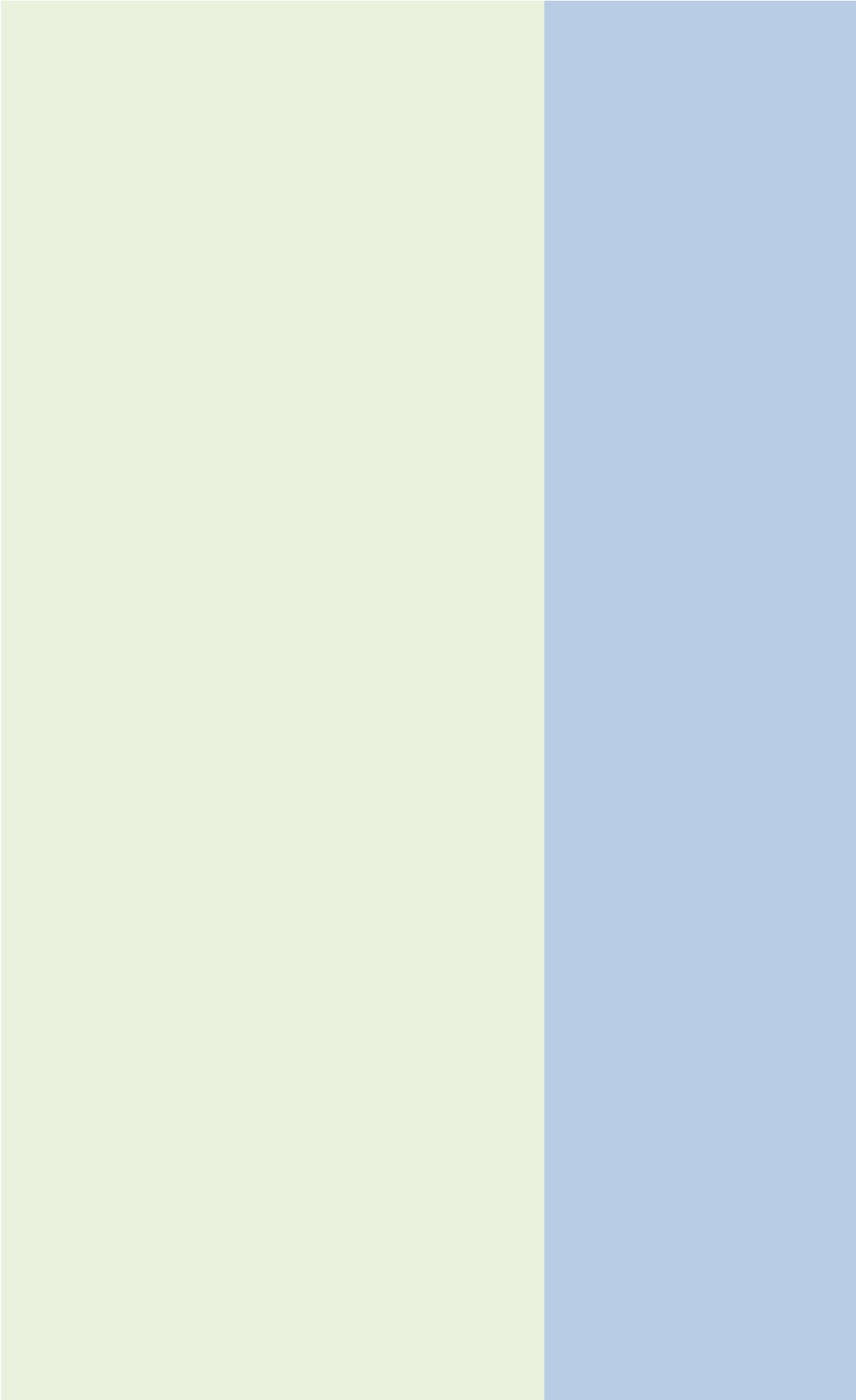


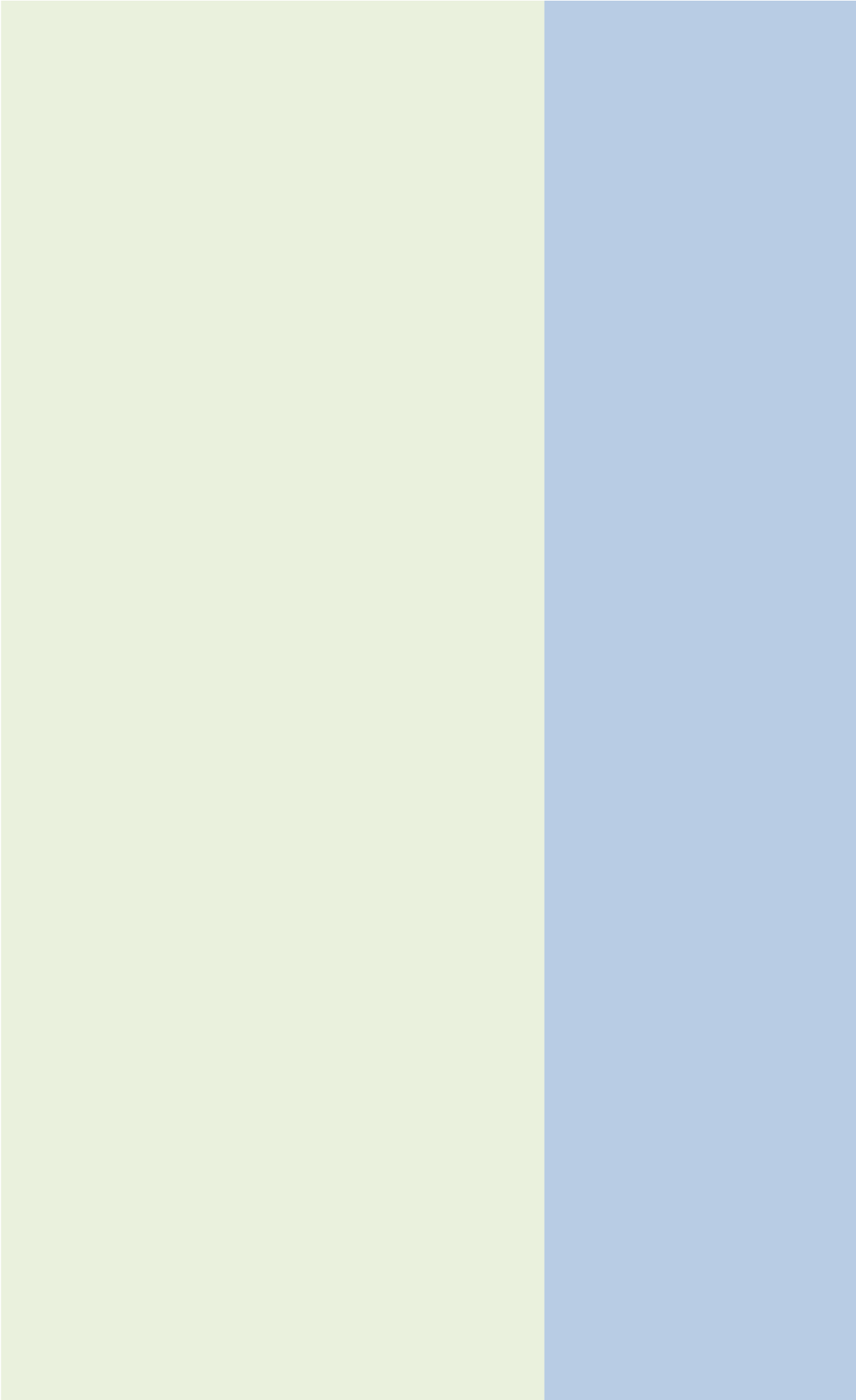


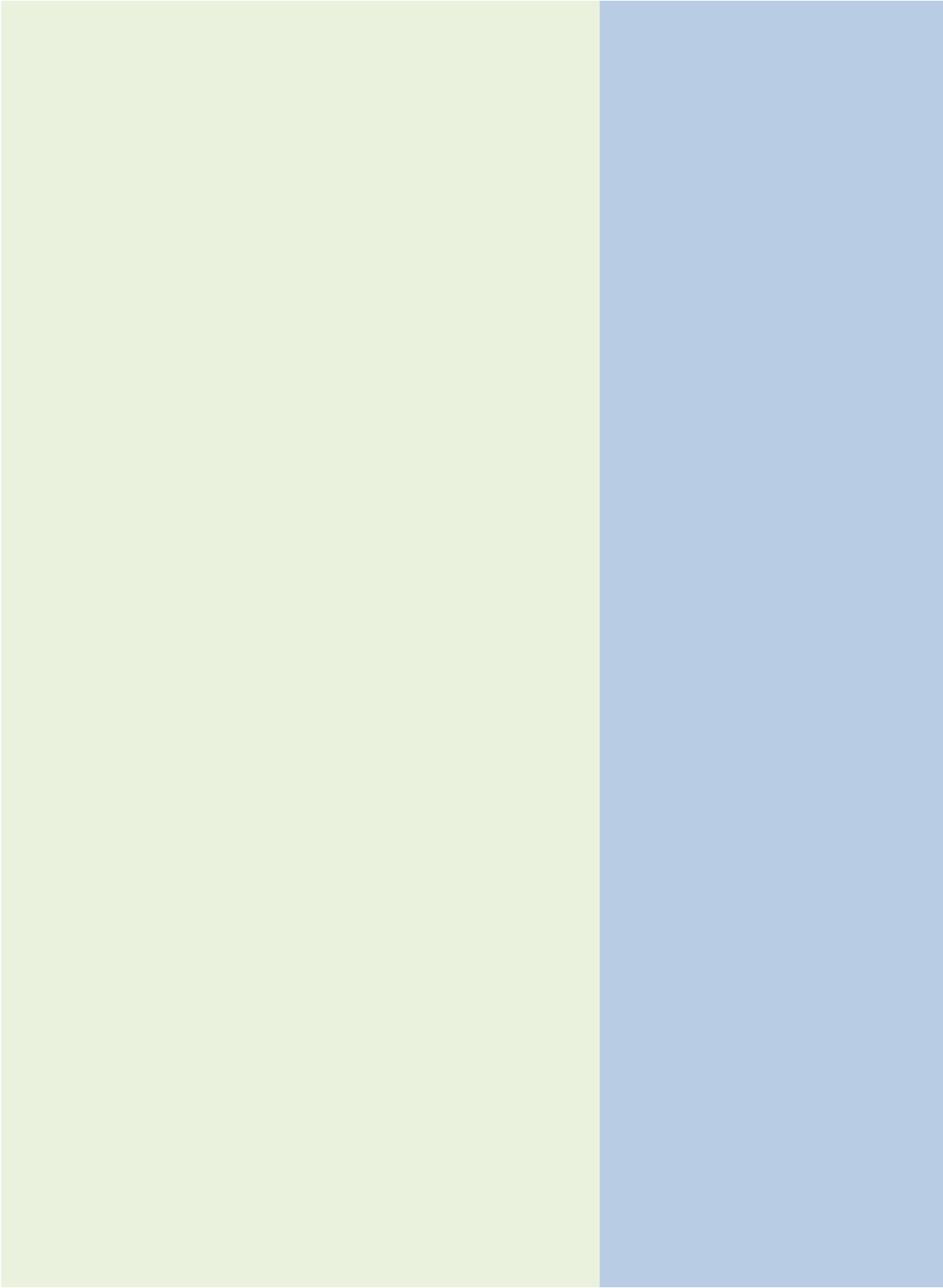












<b>Councillor number</b>	<b>Quota that follows on</b>	
54	2292	
53	2336	
52	2381	
51	2427	
50	2476	
49	2526	
48	2579	
47	2634	
46	2691	
45	2751	
44	2813	
43	2879	
42	2947	
41	3019	
40	3095	
39	3174	
38	3258	
37	3346	
36	3439	
35	3537	
<b>Current electorate</b>		<b>123790</b>

<b>Parish Name</b>	<b>Current parish wards</b>	<b>Electorate July 2012</b>	<b>Borough Councillor entitlement at 2,292</b>			
Chetwynd Aston and Woodcote	0	466	0.2			
Chetwynd	0	377	0.2			
Church Aston	2	1074	0.5			
Dawley Hamlets	2	4979	2.2			
Edgmond	0	1090	0.5			
Ercall Magna	0	1379	0.6			
Eyton upon the Weald Moors	0	66	0.0			
Great Dawley	2	8583	3.7			
Hadley & Leegomery	4	10265	4.5			
Hollinswood & Randlay	0	4285	1.9			
Ketley	2	2968	1.3			
Kynnersley	0	168	0.1			
Lawley & Overdale	3	5073	2.2			
Lilleshall, Donnington & Muxton	3	10823	4.7			
Little Wenlock	0	449	0.2			
Madeley	3	12838	5.6			
Newport	4	8357	3.6			
Oakengates	2	6459	2.8			
Preston upon the Weald Morrs	0	187	0.1			
Rodington	0	711	0.3			
St Georges & Priorslee	2	8478	3.7			
Stirchley & Brookside	2	7465	3.3			
The Gorge	3	2594	1.1			
Tibberton & Cherrington	0	554	0.2			
Waters Upton	0	747	0.3			
Wellington	7	16351	7.1			
Wrockwardine	0	2902	1.3			
Wrockwardine Wood & Trench	3	4102	1.8			

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