



RECYCLED PAPER MAKING

MATERIALS NEEDED

1. Blenders (preferably an old one)
2. Plastic container (minimum 5 gallon capacity)
3. Embroidery Hoops or Frames with Metal or Mesh Screening
4. Shredded or Finely Ripped Paper
5. Water
6. Food Coloring or Colored Paper (optional)

EDUCATION STANDARDS

1. ESS3: Earth and Human Activity
 - a. Natural Resources
 - c. Human Impacts on Earth Systems
2. PS1: Matter and its Interactions
 - a. Structures and Properties of Matter
 - b. Chemical Reactions

ACTIVITY

Using a blender, puree 1½ - 2 cups of shredded or finely torn paper with 3 cups of water with colored paper or food coloring of choice until the paper is thoroughly blended. When finished, the pulp will be roughly the consistency of cooked oatmeal. Pour the mixture evenly over the mesh or metal screens, fully covering the corners.

Once the paper pulp mix is covering the entire screen, use the palm of one hand to hold the screen in place (much like holding a pizza), and another hand above to squeeze excess liquid from the pulp. Pressing slowly, use your hands to flatten out the paper and remove any excess liquids.

After shaping and pressing the paper on the screen, transfer the paper onto a sheet of cardboard or absorbent paper, and allow the sheets to dry for up to 24 hours. Once the paper is dry, you can cut, draw, paint, or write on the sheets.

TIPS TO TRY: *Use homemade recycled paper to make booklets, cards, or planters by shaping the paper with your hands or using a mold to shape as it dries. You can also make seed paper by sprinkling flower or herb seeds into the sheet while drying.*

ENJOY!