

Recycle and Reuse

Activity 1: Recycled paper – making your own

SUPPLIES TO MAKE RECYCLED PAPER

- Paper scraps, white or coloured paper works best
- Scissors
- A medium bowl
- Water
- A blender or stick blender
- A grease splatter screen or fine sieve
- A baking pan with an edge
- A pie pan or glass baking dish
- A hair dryer (optional)
- Add-ins like glitter, bits of ribbon, seeds, etc. (optional)



HOW TO MAKE RECYCLED PAPER

1. Cut or tear your paper scraps into small pieces the size of the end of your thumb. Place the pieces in the medium bowl as you cut them.

2. When you have finished, and the bowl is full, pour enough cool water into your bowl to just cover your paper and push the scraps down into the water. Let the paper soak for a couple of hours, or until it's soft and mushy, you could speed this up by mushing with your fingers.

3. Once the paper is mushy, either transfer it to a blender or use a stick blender to process it until it forms a thick pulp. Get an adult to show you this part first! If the mixture is too dry, add a little extra water.

It should look like this:

4. Place your splatter screen or your sieve over your baking pan

5. Scoop the paper pulp out of the bowl and spread it out on the splatter screen or into the sieve. If using a splatter screen use your hands, a spatula, or even a pie pan to carefully press out as much water as possible.



If you are using a sieve fill the sieve with pulp and use your fingers to press the water out. You will have to put the pulp on a flat surface to dry once you have squeezed all the water out, put it on a piece of cardboard and press it out with your fingers, it should look like the picture below, or you could make fancy shapes like love hearts, triangles etc. Allow the paper to air dry. You can speed this up a little by using a hair dryer



Use your paper for crafts, personalized notes, or whatever else you'd like! This paper would be great for scrapbooking, and even mixed media creations. Home made paper can be particularly beautiful if you include leaves, flowers, or even scraps of fabric or yarn which you would press into the wet pulp when it is spread out.

You can also make paper bricks from newspaper to put on the fire

Use newspaper instead of nicer paper, rip into small pieces and fill a bucket with bits of paper, pour water onto the paper till it's all covered and leave to soak.

Let the paper soak for a couple of hours, or until it's soft and mushy, you could speed this up by mushing with your fingers.

Use a sieve and push all the water out (you will have to do this a bit at a time) when your pulp has all the water squeezed out put it into a bread pan, push it down in the pan till its firm not squishy, then get a piece of cardboard and quickly turn the pan upside down on the cardboard. The "brick" will pop onto your cardboard and you can fill the bread pan up again with squeezed pulp until all your pulp has gone.

Leave to dry for a week in a sunny place and you have paper bricks for the fire!

Activity 2: Newspaper pots

1. Get some newspaper.
2. On a flat surface fold a full piece in half, lengthways twice so that you have a narrow piece of newspaper.

3. Place a glass jar on its side at one end of the newspaper. Make sure to leave about half of the width of the paper overlapping the opening of the jar. Roll the paper around the jar.



4. Push the overlapping newspaper into the jar opening, this will become the base.

5. Remove the jar from the newspaper.

6. Now firmly push the jar base into the newspaper cylinder to flatten the folded end and seal the paper pot.

7. Add soil and plant a seed in your paper pot. Make sure the pot is supported on its sides by other pots to prevent the sides from collapsing. Once the seedling has grown you will be able to plant the whole pot straight into the garden bed.

Activity 3: There's a hole in my bucket! make your own watering can

See

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7_vPHObrfE&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR0kKW5BoMK65RsF-HQ9aTTDkPTPRICqYV7iH5EfVv_z06fa8vD-Rit_b9U

For a fantastic video on how to make a watering can

You could make several and give them to your friends and neighbours

