

FAST FACTS



2+
People



30-60
Minutes



\$10-25



Low
Risk

Paperouflaged

Purpose of Activity: To learn how to make recycled paper, encouraging use of it moving forward.

Objectives/Learning Outcomes:

By actively participating in this activity, participants will:

- Learn how to make recycled paper
- Learn about the impact using recycled paper can have on the planet
- Be motivated to use recycled paper in the future

Materials Needed:

- Scrap paper (butcher paper scraps, construction paper scraps, old homework, wrapping paper, etc.) **DO NOT** use new paper or glossy/shiny paper
- 2 old picture frames the same size (I recommend going to a thrift store to purchase used frames if you don't have some you're willing to use)
- Pantyhose
- A blender
- White glue
- Large tub (big enough for picture frames to fit in)
- Towels
- Optional:
 - Rolling pin
 - Food coloring and gloves

Facilitation Guide

1. To make paper:
 - a. Remove glass etc. from the picture frames.
 - b. Stretch panty hose over the frames—you may want to staple them down if it's not tight
 - c. Rip scrap paper into small pieces, and inch or less
 - d. Fill your blender about halfway with paper scraps
 - e. Add water and blend
 - f. Fill tub about halfway with water
 - g. Add approximately 2 tablespoons of white glue for every couple of gallons. Just eyeball it
 - h. Add blender mixture to tub and mix with your hands to combine paper, glue, and water
 - i. Repeat the process until you feel you have enough pulp to make paper for everyone at the program

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- j. If you want colored paper, add food coloring. If you do this, you will want to use gloves moving forward
 - k. Dip one frame below the pulp mix
 - l. Shake gently to get an even covering over screen
 - m. Put the second frame on top of the first, using the second screen to help squeeze out water and press the paper into shape
 - n. Pull out of the tub and let drip dry
 - o. Lay out a flat towel
 - p. Remove the top of the frame and turn the bottom so it falls out on the towel
 - q. Place another towel on top of the paper and gently press to remove water
 - r. If you have a rolling pin, use it now. Roll it on top of the towel, not directly on the paper
 - s. Let the paper dry overnight
2. While you're making paper, explain:
 - a. Throwing away paper has a big impact on the planet. If instead of throwing away a ton of paper it was recycled, according to the US Environmental Protection Agency, we would save
 - i. Enough energy to power the average American home for six months
 - ii. 7,000 gallons of water
 - iii. 3.3 cubic yards of landfill space
 - iv. Reduce green house gas emissions by one metric ton of carbon equivalents
 - b. To put this in perspective,
 - i. If you use 1 case of paper (10 reams) of paper each month for a year, you would need approximately 1 ton of wood, or eight 40 foot trees
 - ii. If you use 30% recycled content paper, you only need 5 trees
 - iii. Consider buying 100% recycled content paper to cut it down to no trees!

Helpful Hints:

1. You may want to iron the paper with a cool iron after it has dried. It will make the paper smoother and easier to write on
2. You can contact Jill Ramirez at sustainability@life.arizona.edu to borrow the materials (blender, tub, etc.)