



Recycling Paper

Materials: newspaper, water, powdered detergent or wallpaper paste or flour, egg-beater or blender, sponge, window screen, paper towels, and an iron

Age Appropriateness: Ages 5 and up

Time: About 1 hour

Procedure:

Tear newspaper into bits and add to dishpan filled with lukewarm to hot water. Let the pieces of newspaper soak for a short while. After the paper has become thoroughly soaked, beat it with the egg beater. When the mixture has been beaten, it should have a creamy texture of pulp. Add a pinch of detergent or wallpaper paste that has already been dissolved in a pint of water. Pour into the pulp and stir. (The paste or detergent acts as a binder.) Hold the piece of window screen flat and lower it into the pulp. Do this until you have covered the screen with about 1/16 inch of the mixture. Turn the window screen upside down onto paper toweling. Dab with sponge to soak up any water. Remove the screen and add another layer of paper towel over the newly made paper. Iron on low to medium heat. When paper is dry write a message to your friend on your newly recycled paper. You may need to let fibers dry for several hours. Congratulations! You have just completed the process of recycling.

Additional Comments:

A blender may be used. Construction paper may add color. Older children may try casting objects, by placing the wet paper over objects and let dry.