

A Moment of Intention #21



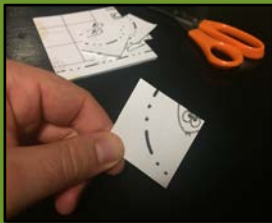
1+ Hour
Activity
For
Everyone

Homemade Recycled Paper

Paper was invented over 2000 years ago and has continued to be a staple part of communication practices ever since. Since its invention, paper has been made from a wide variety of resources. Here is an activity for you and your family to create your own paper that is meaningful and resourceful.

Creating your own homemade paper allows you to learn a new skill as well as be resourceful with what you're making the paper out of. For the example below, the only paper used was from junk mail and flyers, giving a new purpose to this resource instead of throwing it away. Follow the steps below to create your own homemade recycled paper.

Step #1
Cut scrap paper you have collected into 1-inch squares.



Step #2
Place two handfuls of the cut-up paper pieces into blender and add water until blender is full.



Step #3
Blend cut-up paper and water for about 1 minute or until mixture turns pulpy and is broken down.



Step #4
Using a spoon, slowly scoop pulpy mixture out onto a strainer. Make sure to spread it out evenly creating an even layer without clumps.



Step #5
Take a piece of tin foil or wax paper and lay it over top of the pulpy mixture. Using your hand, apply pressure to squeeze as much water out of the pulpy mixture as possible.



Step #6
Carefully flip the strainer over and remove the wet paper mixture. Be gentle as you don't want the mixture to rip or tear. Lay it out in a warm place to dry overnight.



Step #7
Once your paper has dried and is ready to use, get creative! This homemade recycled paper is great to use for cards, notes, letters, whatever you can think to use it for.



Get Creative – Use coloured paper, food colouring or flower seeds to add an extra layer of creativity to your paper!

REFLECTION

When making your paper keep these questions in mind:

- How does it feel to repurpose something old into something new and functional?
- What other objects and resources can you think of that can be repurposed into something new?
- How can we transfer the learning of repurposing objects and resources into our everyday lives?

Materials Needed:

- 5-6 sheets of scrap paper
- A blender or food processor
- Scissors
- Water
- Strainer
- Tin Foil or Wax Paper
- Art supplies for decorating