



Go Green...

OBSERVE AND CONSERVE

## Paper Making

### Supplies:

*Blender, Paper that you want to recycle, Water, 2 teaspoons of liquid starch (if you plan on writing on your paper), Wire Screen, Basin, Towel, Sponge, Iron, Wax Paper, Crayons and a Vegetable Peeler.*

*Please Note: Younger girls should have an adult help them with this activity.*

### Step 1



*Select the pieces of paper to be recycled. You can even mix different types to create your own unique paper. Rip the paper into small bits, and place into the blender (about half full). Fill the blender with warm water until the paper is covered. If you plan on writing on your paper, you will need to add 2 teaspoons of liquid starch. This helps prevent the ink from soaking into the paper fibers. Run the blender slowly at first then increase the speed until the pulp looks smooth and well blended (30-40 seconds). Check that no flakes of paper remain. If there are, blend longer.*

### Step 2



*Place your wire mesh over the basin and pour the pulp mixture evenly over the surface of the screen.*

### Step 3



*After the water has drained from the pulp mixture, gently press the pulp with a sponge to remove any excess water. This will give your paper a nice even texture.*

### Step 4



*Gently flip your mesh screen over so that your paper is lying on a sheet of wax paper.*

### Step 5



*Flip over the wax paper so that your paper is between the towel and the wax paper. Be careful not to rip your paper. Iron the paper to remove any excess water. If you would like your paper to be plain, it is done at this point and you can remove the wax paper and set it aside to dry. If you would like to further decorate your paper, proceed to step 6.*

### Step 6



*With a vegetable peeler, carefully make various colored crayon shavings and sprinkle or place them on your paper to create your design. You can also experiment with other materials that could be melted to the paper. Use your creativity.*

## Step 7



*After your crayon shavings are in place, put another sheet of wax paper over the top and iron the paper again so that the crayon wax melts into the paper fibers.*

## Step 8



*Remove the wax paper, you've created your first piece of paper! Explore some other options in your paper making technique. For example, you could use different types of paper/cardboard, a different size screen or different paper shred/water ratios. The possibilities are endless!*