

RECYCLE YOUR PAPERBOARD PACKAGING

MAKE YOUR OWN PAPER

Teach your little learner about the power of paperboard's renewability and sustainability with this hands-on paper-making activity.

The first step in the process of making paperboard is collecting wood fibers to turn into pulp. Wood fibers come from natural fibers, such as wood chips, or from recycled paper products. Once collected, you'll need to break down the fibers into a spongy mass called pulp.

In this activity, you will use materials in your own home to make pulp and create new paper right from your kitchen!

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Paper and Paperboard: Cereal Boxes, Tissue Rolls, Newspaper, etc.
- Paper Shredder or Scissors
- Large Bowl
- Hot Water
- Screen (Strainer, Window Screen)
- Blender or Food Processor
- Baking Sheet
- Absorbent Towel or Fabric*

*Your paper may take on the color and texture of this material, so be careful what you use!



HOW TO GET STARTED

STEP ONE: SHRED

Collect your paper or paperboard and shred or cut your materials into small pieces less than an inch in size. Collect these pieces in a large bowl.

PRO TIP: The smaller the cut, the easier it will be to blend.

STEP TWO: COVER

Pour just enough hot (not boiling) water in your bowl to cover the paper. Let this sit overnight (8-12 hours), or until soft and mushy.

STEP THREE: BLEND

Once the mixture is ready, transfer the contents of the bowl to your blender and slowly blend until it forms a thick pulp.

PRO TIP: Add warm water to your mixture if your pulp is too thick and cannot be blended.

STEP FOUR: SCREEN

Take your screen or mesh strainer and place it on a towel laid over a baking sheet. Slowly pour your pulp through the screen, gently pressing with your hands or another smooth surface until you form an even layer that's thick enough to stick together yet thin enough to prevent clumps.

STEP FIVE: DRY

Place your wet pulp in a safe location to dry for 1-2 days (a hair dryer can help speed up the process). Once it is completely dry, gently peel your paper from the towel or fabric.

CONGRATULATIONS!

You've successfully made your own recycled paper! Show us your creation by using the hashtag **#TICCITatHome** on social media.

