



## RECYCLE - MAKING PAPER

Do you have lots of old papers lying around at home?

Why not make your turn them into your own paper!

1. Tear up the old paper into pieces about 3 – 5 centimetres and soak it in a bucket of hot water and leave it somewhere safe overnight.
2. Ask an adult if they can help you with this bit. You will need a blender half filled with warm water. Add to this a handful of the soggy paper. Make sure the lid is on tight and blend it until it looks like a yucky lumpy soup. Place the soupy mix into another container and keep blending up the soggy paper with warm water until it is all done.
3. Now comes the interesting bit. Paper makers use a screen called a deckle. The deckle is a belt the size of the paper that you want to make. You can cut a deckle out of plastic. Slide the deckle into the pre made soupy mix until it is covered as evenly as possible.
4. Lift out the deckle and let the extra water drip off. Press the newly made paper with your hand gently to make sure that it has stuck to the deckle.
5. Now get a clean tea towel and gently press the deckle so that the new paper falls off onto it. Cover with another tea towel quickly and repeat the process. You may want to do this on a tray so that you can move the paper to a different place whilst it is drying.
6. The tea towels and paper may take up to a day or more to dry so don't be in too much of a hurry! Pull the tea towels gently from opposite ends so that the paper kind of springs off. Be careful now, you won't want to rip it!
7. The paper you make will look great. Make cards, notes, messages, books and cards. Your friends and family will be impressed with you recycling and making your own paper.