

Recycled Paper

The girls start by finding old recycled paper. You could use an old cereal box, paper or make your own recycled paper using the instructions below.

YOU WILL NEED

- Scrap paper (newspaper, used printer paper, etc.)
- Water
- Blender or food processor
- Large basin or pan
- Window screen or mesh fabric (an old, fine mesh curtain or pantyhose can work)
- Sponge
- Drying rack
- Rolling Pin

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1 Tear the scrap paper into small pieces, about the size of a postage stamp. This helps them break down more easily in the blender.
- 2 Fill the blender about halfway with warm water and add the torn paper until the blender is about three-quarters full.
- 3 Blend the mixture until the paper turns into a smooth pulp. Make sure there are no large pieces left to ensure an even texture in the final product.
- 4 Lay out the window screen or mesh over the large basin or pan. If using a frame, secure the screen tightly to avoid wrinkles.
Note: You may want to prepare the area with towels or a waterproof tablecloth to manage water spillage.
- 5 Pour the paper pulp evenly onto the screen. Spread it out with your hands to make an even layer across the screen.
- 6 Place another screen or a piece of mesh fabric on top of the pulp.
- 7 Use a sponge to press down gently on the screen, soaking up excess water from the pulp. Be thorough to ensure the paper dries evenly and holds together.
- 8 Carefully lift the screen with the pulp and place it on the drying rack in a sunny spot to dry. This may take several hours to a full day, depending on the thickness of the paper and environmental conditions.
- 9 Once dry, gently peel the recycled paper off the screen. Use a rolling pin to smooth out any unevenness if necessary.
- 10 Use the recycled paper to paint Thank you Circles. They may want to start with being thankful that they do not have to make their own paper.

Follows a sequence of steps to create an artwork

