Making Recycled Paper
Create recycled paper—a forest product.

Activity
1. Tear one or two pages of newspaper into small squares of one inch or less.

2. Put the paper chips into a large bowl and add three cups of water to it. Keep adding paper, tearing it and squeezing it, until the mixture looks like thick oatmeal.

3. With the pan turned upside down, place about one cup of the blended pulp over the bottom of the pan. Spread it with your fingers evenly across the entire area.

4. Lay several sheets of newspaper over the pulp, then carefully turn the pan over. Remove the pan. Your pulp square is now sitting on the newspaper.

5. Close the newspaper over the pulp. Using the rolling pin, roll over the newspaper to blot out the extra water.

6. Uncover and let the new paper dry completely. When it is thoroughly dry, peel your new recycled paper away from the newspaper. It can now be cut to any size and used to make a variety of things.

7. Have students make a greeting card out of their recycled paper. They can draw designs or use glitter and glue to write a message.

Materials
• Large square pan about three inches deep
• Large bowl
• Measuring cup
• Water
• A large section of newspaper
• Rolling pin

Tip
Recycle paper in your classroom and encourage students to recycle at home too!

Classroom Activities

English Language Arts
• Have students write a message in the card using proper grammar, salutations, dates, etc.
• Have students create a skit, rhyme, or song about the importance of recycling.

Science
• Identify the parts of a tree and the nutrients needed for survival.
• Discuss the importance of trees, what they can be used for, and how they reproduce.
• Have students bring items to class that can be reduced, recycled, and reused. Start a recycling program in your classroom.

California Standards:

Kindergarten
ELA CC: W.K.7
NGSS: K-LS1-1, K-ESS2-2, K-ESS3-1, K-ESS3-3

Grade 1
ELA CC: W.1.7
NGSS: 1-LS1-1, 1-LS3-1

Grade 2
ELA CC: W.2.7
NGSS: 2-PS1-2, 3

Grade 3
ELA CC: W.3.4
NGSS: 3-LS1-1, 3-LS3-2, 3-LS4-2

Did You Know?
The word paper comes from the Latin word “papyrus,” named after the Egyptian reed from which paper was first made.

Adapted from “Forests Today, Tomorrow and Forever” by The Forest Foundation