Make Recycled Paper
(taken from NWT Focus on Forest)

You will need:
- Parent’s permission,
- 2 wooden frames
- Staples
- Nylon Screen
- Scrap paper
- Plant cuttings (flowers, leaves, etc.,) optional
- Kitchen towels
- Blender
- Hot water
- Warm water
- Sponge
- Iron
- Large plastic container (for soaking paper)

What to do:

1. Tear some waste paper (of any color) into small pieces. Place these pieces into a large container and pour enough hot water over them so that they are completely covered. Let this mixture of paper porridge sit overnight.

2. Make two wooden frames the same size.

3. Staple nylon screening tightly to one frame to make the “mould”. The other frame without the screen is the “deckle”.

Make 2 wooden frames

Staple screen to 1 frame
4. Place 1 cup full of paper porridge into a blender which is half full of warm water. Blend at a low speed. Add any plants leaves or flowers at this time.

5. Pour the mixture into a big plastic container and add warm water until the container is half full. (This should make thin paper. If you want thicker paper add more of the blended paper porridge.)

6. Put the deckle frame on top of the “mould” frame (screen side up) and. Dip them into the mixture.

   Shake the frames gently from side to side. Keep the screen level to ensure an thin, evenly distributed layer of paper porridge.

7. Lift the 2 frames out of the container. Allow the water to drain.

   Repeat this procedure if the screen is not evenly coated.
8. Lay the screen face down on a clean kitchen cloth. Soak up any extra water on the back of the screen with a sponge.

9. Lift the screen very gently. The paper should remain on the cloth.

10. Cover the paper with a second cloth. Iron at medium temperature for 1 minute.

11. Gently separate the paper from the cloth. Place the paper on a flat surface and let it dry.

12. Once it is dry, it is ready to be used. Have fun!

***REMEMBER***
Do not throw the leftover paper porridge down the drain. Collect it in a strainer and throw it out.