



*Dear Family,*

**In my class today** we made our own paper out of trash.

**Did You Know?**

- When we recycle, we are turning used items or waste into new products. Paper, plastic, aluminum, and glass are the most frequently recycled materials. Sometimes the same product is produced, such as recycling used plastic soda bottles into new plastic bottles or old aluminum cans into new aluminum cans. We can also recycle used materials to create new products. Plastic bottles are recycled and become fiber filling for jackets and sleeping bags, carpeting, paintbrush bristles, and skateboards. Used office paper can be recycled into tissues, toilet paper, paper towels, napkins, and writing paper.
- In the United States, paper is made from recycled paper, trees and other plants, and woodchips and scraps from sawmills. A paper product can be recycled 5–7 times before the fibers are too weak to use again. More than 5,000 products are made from recycled paper. Some of those products are masking tape, paper money, globes, bandages, coffee filters, and hospital gowns.

**Ask Your Child:**

- What kind of trash did you use to make paper?
- How do you make paper out of trash?
- How did the mixture feel?
- Tell me what the finished paper looked like.
- What did you do with the paper that you made?

**Activities To Do With Your Child:**

- Do you recycle in your home? Do you need to separate your recycling and put the paper products in a different container than the other items?
- Let your child help you sort your recycling. Encourage your child to be in charge of organizing the paper products that need to be recycled.
- Ask your child to look around the house with you. Can you find some things made from recycled paper? Look for cereal boxes, napkins, paper towels, tissues, or coffee filters. Let your child bring them to school and share them with us.

**Vocabulary Words To Use With Your Child:** recycle, paper, blend, texture, pulp, squeeze