



Papermaking as a Science Fair Project

About the plan

EDUCATOR'S NAME	Beverly McWilliams
SCHOOL	Bankston Elementary
DISTRICT	Greenwood Public
GRADE LEVELS	5-6
SUBJECT	Science
UNIT/THEME	Papermaking
OBJECTIVES	To encourage students to become interested in topics for Science Fair projects and to inform students about the methods of paper-making
INSTRUCTIONAL FORMAT	Students will be divided into four different groups to do research and to design posters. Groups will be divided accordingly: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. History of Paper2. How Paper is Made3. Recycled Paper4. How to Make Paper at Home
MATERIALS NEEDED	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MAGNOLIA for research• Note paper• Poster Board• Drawing paper• Colored markers
DURATION OF ACTIVITY	4 days
FORMAL ASSESSMENT	Students were able to find more than adequate information for their posters.

Activity

Students are divided into teams to do research using MAGNOLIA to find information about their topic in order to prepare a poster explaining their topic. They are encouraged to start with [Middle Search Plus](#) and [Academic Search Elite](#). Students take notes and cut and paste any pictures that can be used

on their posters. At the conclusion of the week, every student is given an opportunity to make paper in the library.

Explore activity

The New Book of Knowledge gives information on "How Paper is Recycled," "Printing," including the history of paper, and "Paper," on how paper is made, materials, types of paper products, and the history of paper. Have students go to Academic Search Elite. Once there, students can type in "homemade paper." "How to Make Homemade Paper" by Saddington, Marianne, from Mother Earth News, December 1993/January 1994, Issue Number 141, page 30, provides information on needed materials, how to make pulp, how to mold the pulp, drying methods, storing extra pulp, and how to build a mold and deckle. Have students use this site to make their own paper in the library. Students can make a collage from the paper and hang it in the library. Students can also use MAGNOLIA to research the importance of recycling. Students could independently present in front of the class their findings using statistics, charts, and diagrams.