

# Make recycled paper

Help to save trees by creating your own paper.

## What you need

- 1 wire coathanger
- 1 old pair of tights
- 1 elastic band
- Torn-up scrap paper (we used three sheets of A4)
- Large mixing bowl
- Water
- 1 tablespoon of PVA glue
- Paper towels
- Baking tray
- Plastic carrier bag
- Rolling pin

## How does it work?

Paper is made from tiny strands of wood. When old paper is torn up and soaked in water for at least an hour, these strands break down. The glue helps stick the strands together, and mixing, squishing, rolling and drying the pulp squashes everything to form paper again.

**TOP TIP**  
You can add bits of cotton wool to the pulp to make your paper stronger.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Up to 13 litres of water are needed to make a single sheet of A4 paper.

## SAVING TREES

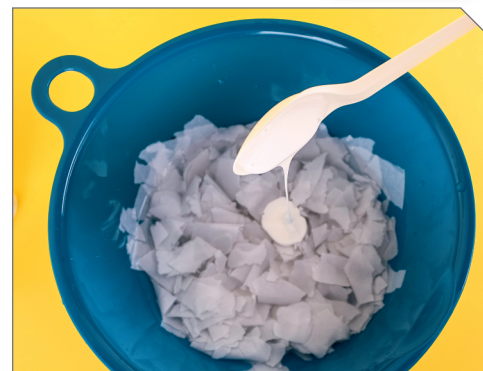
Recycling one tonne of paper saves about 17 adult trees.



**1** Bend the wire coathanger into a square and pull one leg of the tights over it to make a screen. Secure with a knot or an elastic band.



**2** Put all the scraps of paper into a bowl and add enough water to just cover it. Leave it to stand for at least an hour, ideally longer.



**3** When the paper is nice and soggy, use your hands to pull the pieces apart. Now add the glue and stir the mixture well to make a pulp.



**4** Lay a few sheets of paper towel onto a baking tray and put the screen on top. Spoon the paper-pulp mixture onto the screen.



**5** Cover the mixture with a plastic bag and use a rolling pin to roll out the pulp until it is evenly spread across the screen.



**6** Remove the bag and leave the mixture to dry (this may take a few days). Once it is completely dry, carefully peel the paper from the screen.