

Seed Paper

Seed paper is recycled paper that has been torn into strips, blended with water, drained, with seeds added. The paper is pressed into shapes (or not) and can be used as gift tags, ornaments, or cards. It's child-friendly, fun, and ecologically sound.



Materials:

- Paper such as empty cardboard egg cartons, construction paper scraps, or newspaper
- Food coloring (optional)
- Warm, not hot water
- Blender
- Splatter screen (shown above) or piece of screen, or a wire cooling rack (optional)
- Cookie cutters (optional)
- Parchment or wax paper (if not using a screen)
- A screen such as a splatter screen used when cooking
- Mixing bowl
- 1-2 packages of wildflower seeds
- straw or pencil (for making a hole in ornaments (optional)

Directions:

1. Tear the paper or cardboard into strips or small chunks.
2. Put paper in the blender and add enough warm water to just cover it. (Don't put seeds in the blender!)
3. Blend, pulsing to start, until the mixture has no strips left and looks like pulp. This could take up to one minute.
4. Add 1-3 drops of food coloring, if using and pulse until combined.
5. Pour pulp into the mixing bowl and squish out the water with your hands.
6. Take wads of pulp and press into a cookie cutter or free form (hearts or pine trees look festive) so the pulp is about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch thick. Or place the pulp on the screen patting it either into the shape you want or a rectangle that can be later cut when dried.
7. Gently sprinkle about a half-teaspoon of seeds over the pulp, pressing lightly so the seeds adhere.

8. Put near a sunny window and allow it to dry, undisturbed for 24-48 hours until dry to the touch.
9. If you are making ornaments, poke a straw or pencil point through the top to make a hanging hole.
10. When it is planting time, place in a good sunny spot and water as you would any seeds.