

Make and Plant Seed Paper Hearts

Thank you to Johanna Lee (johanadesign@yahoo.com) and Brigid Finucane for helping put together this fun activity!

Grade: PreK-3

Concept: Sequencing, Cause and Effect, Handwriting

Materials Needed:

- 1. Scrap Paper
- 2. Water
- 3. Blender
- 4. Measuring Cup, Bucket, Large Bowl, Colander or Strainer
- 5. Wildflower seeds
- 6. Heart Shaped Cookie Cutters, or Heart Shaped Paper forms,
- 7. Blanket or Towel

Activity:

- 1. Tear paper into small pieces, separate colors so you have warm and cool colors together with the white paper, i.e. cool: green, purple, blue, warm: red, orange, yellow.
- If you put all color together your paper will be brown!
- 2. Place 2 cups of torn paper in the bucket and cover with hot water, allow to sit 30 minutes or longer. Scoop wet paper into the blender and blend until smooth.
- 3. Pour the blended the paper into a bowl and sprinkle with wildflower seeds and stir.
- 4. Pour the seeded paper pulp into a colander and press out the water.
- 5. Press paper pulp into the heart form. Forms need to be placed on a towel. The pulp needs to be left to dry out. The forms can be removed carefully.
- 6. Sing Planting Seeds of Love and have the children write the word LOVE or another quality word on their seed paper heart.
- 7. The seed hearts can be planted in potting soil or in a Planting Seeds of Love flower bed covered with soil.

Extensions:

Second and Third Grade Alternatives

- Second and third graders can make paper on screens and then cut the heart. This will require a screen and wax paper and 2 dishpans.
- Step 3, paper is poured into a dishpan and water is added to make the pulp runny.
- Step 4, the screen is dipped into the pulp and and then place a piece of wax paper over the pulp and press with a sponge to remove the excess water.
- Step 5, Remove the wax paper and invert screen onto a towel, press the paper fibers into the towel, couching the fibers and gently lift the screen. It will tear if it is too wet.

Additional Resources

- YouTube: Preschoolers Making Seed Paper by Jackie Saggio *Paper pulp can be used instead of foam just squeeze out the water so it is solid, then add the tissue and water and shake
- YouTube: Paper Making At Home by Roger Wilk. This includes a paper press but it is not necessary. Just do not forget to add the Wildflower seeds and cut into a heart.
- Ready made seed paper @ http://www.botanicalpaperworks.com/catalog/seed-paper.