Making hand-made recycled paper
Pupil instructions

You will need:

- 1 plastic box containing water and pulp
- 2 papermaking frames - 1 with mesh, 1 without
- 1 plastic tray
- 1 old newspaper soaked in water
- J clothes
- Permanent marker pen

1. Write your name on your J cloth using the permanent marker.

2. If you are the first person to make paper, put your cloth on the wet newspaper on the tray. If somebody has already made paper, put your cloth carefully on top of theirs.

3. Stand in front of the plastic box of water and paper pulp. Swirl the water around with your hand to make sure that the pulp hasn’t all sunk to the bottom.

4. Pick up your papermaking frames – you should have one with mesh and one without. Put the frames together so that the mesh is in the middle, sandwiched between the two wooden frames.
5. Hold the frames with both hands, with the non-mesh frame on top. Now you are ready to make your piece of hand-made recycled paper!

6. Hold the frames vertically and plunge them into the water, at the back of the box.

7. Slide the frames down to the bottom of the box and hold them there for a few seconds to let the pulp settle on the mesh.

8. Gently lift up the frames, keeping them flat. Let the water drain through the holes in the mesh, leaving a thin layer of pulp on the mesh.

9. Carefully take off the top frame and put it to one side.

10. Stand in front of your tray with your named cloth on it, then....
11. Put your frame on the edge of your cloth.

12. Carefully roll the frame over until it is flat on the cloth, with the pulp side down.

13. Gently press your sponge on the back of the mesh to absorb the water. Squeeze the water back into the plastic box. Repeat about 10 times to remove as much water as possible.

14. Carefully lift off your frame. Your sheet of paper should have transferred onto the J cloth. Don’t be tempted to touch the paper – it is very delicate while it is still wet.

15. To make another sheet of recycled paper, put your cloth carefully on top of the one you have just made and return to step 3. If somebody else is going to make the next piece of paper they will put their cloth on top of your paper.

16. Once it’s dry, use your hand-made recycled paper to make something beautiful, like a card for a special occasion. Don’t forget to write ‘hand-made from recycled materials’ on the back!

Don’t let Devon go to waste