

How to Make Papyrus With a Paper Bag

Before ancient cultures knew how to make paper, some of them, including the Egyptians, recorded their writing on scrolls made from the papyrus plant. Few people make papyrus anymore because the process is intensive. You can, however, make your own version of papyrus with brown paper bags. This is an easy activity to do in conjunction with learning about ancient Egyptian culture.

Things You'll Need

- 2 Brown paper bags
- Shallow bowl
- 1/4 Measuring cup
- 1/4 Cup Water
- 1/4 Cup White glue
- Wax Paper



Instructions

1. Tear a brown paper shopping bag into strips that measure about 10 inches in length and 1 inch wide.
2. Fill a shallow bowl with 1/4 cup of water and 1/4 cup of white glue, and mix to combine.
3. Cover a flat work surface wax paper.
4. Submerge a strip of brown paper bag in the glue and water mixture and remove it. Run the glue-covered strip between your thumb and forefinger to remove excess glue and place it vertically along one edge of the paper towel.
5. Cover each subsequent strip of paper bag with glue, and place each one on the wax paper. Each strip of paper should slightly overlap the edge of the previous strip.
6. Continue until you have covered the wax paper.
7. Glue a second layer of paper bag strips horizontally across the first.
8. Press on the strips to smooth out your papyrus and allow it to air dry.