



Recycled Greeting Cards:

Grade : 3-adult learning

An integrated lesson plan covering 3 sessions of approximately 2 hours each.



Lesson-Planning Approach

Some learners perceive their “world” as a whole, where all things are interconnected and dependent upon each other. These “integrated” students face major challenges in coping with our dominant educational, social, and economic systems, which tend to present information in a linear fashion without the necessity of integration into meaningful context. Integrated students are at-risk of failing as they attempt to grasp information in ways that do not match their experience. Among large populations of at-risk students are many from Native American and similar cultures who do not regard their world as a sum of parts but as a blend of all that they experience.

This lesson plan does include some traditional, linear approaches to delivering information (checklists, rules, analysis, problem solving and organization). In addition to the traditional, linear delivery of information, this lesson plan also includes some of the following strategies, designed to appeal to at-risk students as they learn academic/life skills:

- ❖ Integration of technology
- ❖ Story telling/anecdotal information
- ❖ Non-competitive group and team work
- ❖ Performance-based assessment and rubrics
- ❖ Visual presentations and practice through technology and other means
- ❖ Project-based assignments that integrate family and community
- ❖ Activities appealing to multiple intelligences (Gardner)

Lesson Overview

The art of papermaking has a long and interesting history that incorporates science, technology, and- of course- writing. In this lesson, students will learn to make recycled paper for the creation of beautiful greeting cards. They will use the writing process, and create their own verse. They will also use the Internet for research.

Lesson Objectives

Lesson Project: Create a Recycled Greeting Card

Project Objectives: When students complete this project, they will be able to...

- Create verse and recycled paper
- Use a basic knowledge of the writing process
- Read greeting card verse
- Expand the concept of creative imagery through verse
- Use the Internet for research

Integration of Other Functional/Academic Skills: (Critical thinking is required throughout the lesson.) Students will be able to...

Reading:	Identify the basic concepts of a greeting card Understand context in writing
Writing:	Use the writing process to create original verse
Technology:	Apply the basic features of Microsoft Wordr (using templates; changing font size, style and color; etc). Use the Internet for research.

State/National Standards

Reading and Writing Skills:

1. Students read and understand a variety of materials.
2. Students write for a variety of purposes and audiences.
3. Students write using conventional grammar, usage, sentence structure, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.
4. Students apply thinking skills to their reading, writing, speaking, listening, and viewing.
5. Students read to locate, select, and make use of relevant information from a variety of media, reference, and technological sources.

Websites

Required:

http://www.ipst.edu/amp/museum_virtual_tour.htm

A museum of papermaking online. Begin the virtual tour with “Forerunners to Paper” and work your way through history.

Phebe Durand

Mountain Plains Distance Learning Partnership 2002

<http://www.powa.org/whtfrms.htm>

This site will help your students through every step of the writing process.

Support:

<http://www.geocities.com/hillbtch/papermaking.html>

Start with the gallery, to see pictures of REALLY neat papermaking projects from paper boxes to traditional paper “clothing”. Then browse the photo tutorials. Very interesting and informative.

<http://www.betterworld.com/BWZ/9512/altpaper.htm>

This site provides a WEALTH of information on papermaking history, projects, and stresses the importance of alternative papers in helping our environment. A site that could really enhance this lesson.

Pre-requisites

Basic knowledge of Microsoft applications (i.e. opening a program, etc.)

Required Materials

- Examples of age-appropriate or student-created verse

Handouts

All handouts are included at the end of the lesson plan.

- Research Handout
- How-to Handout

Required Equipment/Technology

- 1 computer with Microsoft Word for every 1-2 student(s).
- Printer.
- Paper-making supplies as listed in the How-to Handout.

THE LESSON

Note: Students do not learn from what you do but from what you have them do.

Preparation

Activity	Time Estimate	Instructor Notes
Show & Tell: Verse and Recycled Paper	15 –20 min	The purpose of poetry is imagery. However, we have to develop the skill of imagery. This lesson combines imagery in many forms, including the tactile sensation of creating recycled paper. Print the handouts associated with this lesson.

Presentation

Activity	Time Estimate	Instructor Notes
Imagery Process	60+ min	<p>Begin this section with the teaching of writing verse, recycled paper and the history of paper in general using the websites and research handout.</p> <p>The most descriptive way I have found to teach the writing process is with the word POWER: P= Planning (brainstorming, etc.) O= Organizing (loose outlines) W= Writing (write the rough draft) E= Editing (scratch out, add to) R= Revision (re-type edited paper, print final draft)</p> <p>To tie the writing process into the idea of writing verse, try using some examples of your own. Try crafting your own verse, and save the pages of each step you go through. The idea that even a teacher has to use the writing process will make an impact.</p>

Practice and Performance

(Students help you perform the project steps. You help them perform project steps. They perform steps with little or no instructor help.)

Activity	Time Estimate	Instructor Notes
Create	60+ min	The students should use the recycled paper guide

		handout to create their recycled paper. They should do this step in groups, but make 2 recycled paper sheets per student.
Create Verse	60+ min	Each student should spend the time while paper dries (several days) to create their own, original verse to be used in the greeting cards. The steps and guidelines for doing this is also included in the recycled paper guide. *Alternately, these two steps- Writing and Creating recycled paper- could be swapped, and the verse would be based on the “feel” of the paper made.
Create and Print	30-45 min	Students type the final draft of verse in Microsoft Word. Each student is responsible for the creation of their own verse. The verse must use font, size, and formatting of text in creative ways to enhance the presentation of their verse. Finally, each student is responsible for combining the printed verse with the recycled sheets to create their card.

Lesson Assessment Strategy (Formative – As the lesson progresses)

Preparation, Presentation and Overall Implementation (Instructor)

- Did I address the instructions on each activity to meet the needs of the students?
- Did I allow enough time for each lesson?
- Was I knowledgeable with lesson to make everything clear to the students?

Performance and Practice (Student)

- Did the lesson provide a high enough interest to the students?
- Were the students feeling overwhelmed?
- Was the lesson plan and related activities flexible for the needs of all students and learning levels?

Technology

- Were the students comfortable using the technology from the lesson?

- Were the required sites accessible and understandable to the student?
- What is the “Real World” connection using this type of technology?

Handouts

The following pages contain the handouts associated with this lesson plan.

1. Research Handout
2. How-to Handout

Recycled Greetings Research Guide

Trees are made up of cellulose fibers that are held together with a glue-like substance called lignin. This makes trees strong enough to use for building houses and furniture. When wood is cooked, the cellulose is separated from the lignin to make wood pulp. This pulp is made into paper.

In ancient times, people wrote on animal skins, bones and clay tablets. Around 3500 BC, the Egyptians wrote on a woven mat of reeds called papyrus, which is where the word paper comes from. Around 2,000 years ago, the Chinese discovered that they could make a thin paste of mulberry bark, hemp and rags and let it dry into a sheet in the sun. Many types of paper are now made from wood.

The modern day method of making paper is as follows: Logs are chipped into small pieces of wood. These chips are cooked with chemicals that dissolve the glue-like lignin holding the wood fibers together. This process leaves a pulp made of cellulose fibers and lots of water. Then, the pulp is put on a screen to let the water drain away. The fibers remain to form a sheet of paper that is dried and put on a roll. When we recycle paper we use the wood pulp/cellulose over and over again.

Research:

Go to these sites to begin your research—

http://www.ipst.edu/amp/museum_virtual_tour.htm

<http://www.powa.org/whfrms.htm>

<http://www.geocities.com/hillbtch/papermaking.html>

<http://www.betterworld.com/BWZ/9512/altpaper.htm>

While you research, make notes on the next page.

What materials have been used as paper?

When was paper invented?

What types of paper are there?

What home-made paper projects can you find?

In the space below, create a timeline showing how paper has become what it is today:



Recycled Paper Greeting Cards



Materials:

Newspapers

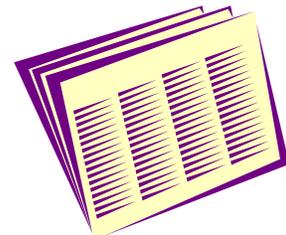
Water
Parchment Paper
Scissors
Colored Threads, Glitter, and/or leaves and petals.

Blender

Large Plastic "Tub" of hot water
Plenty of Scrap Paper
Twine or hemp string
Rolling Pin
Large Plastic "Tub"- Empty

Directions

1. Create a drying pad by folding the newspapers. Each "pad" should be about 2 inches thick.

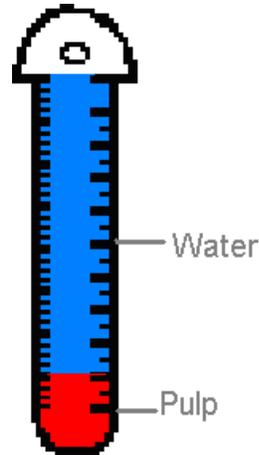


2. Tear Scrap Paper into bits and soak in hot water for about 30 minutes.
3. Blend the soaked paper in the blender. When it is mushy, add leaves, petals, glitter.



4. Mix the pulp- your mushy paper- with water in the empty Plastic tub. The mixture should be 80% water to

20% pulp.

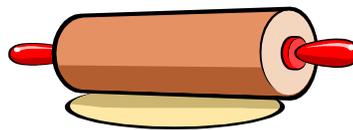


5. Get your hands in and get dirty! Scoop handfuls of pulp out and squeeze the water out of it. Try to get as much water out as you can.



After you squeeze the water out, put the pulp on the newspaper “pads”.

6. Cover the pulp with a couple extra pieces of newspaper. Use the rolling pin to smooth out your “paper”. You don’t want the paper to be too thick, or it won’t dry. Think of a thin piece of cardboard- this is about how thick you need your paper to be.

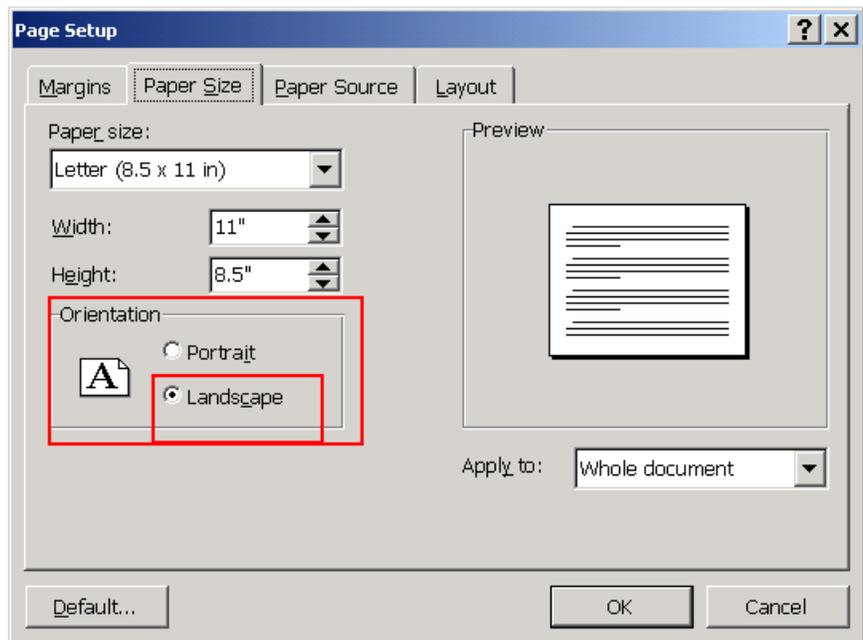


7.

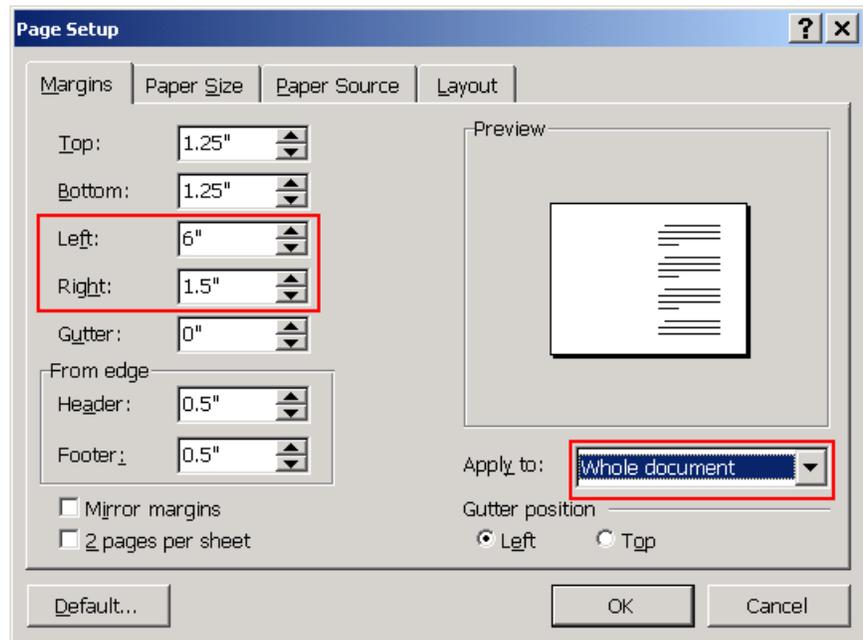


When your paper is thin, carefully peel off the top layer of newspaper. Have a clean newspaper pad ready. Place your thin paper on the dry newspaper pad. Now just wait for it to dry.

8. If your dry paper is not smooth enough, use a warm iron on it. Make sure that the paper is COMPLETELY dry before you iron it. It will take a couple days for the paper to dry completely.
9. While you wait for your paper to dry, create the verse that you will use inside your card. Use the writing process to create your rough draft. When you are ready, type the verse on Microsoft Word. You need to follow these steps to make it print right:
10. Click File, then Page Setup. A window will pop up. You need to click the buttons so that it looks like this:



11. Don't close the window. You need to click on the Margins tab and make that window look like this one:



12. Click the OK button.
13. You can start typing your final draft now, and print it out. Make sure that the verse does not go past one page, or it won't work in your card. Print the verse out on a piece of parchment paper.
14. Now you get to put the card together! Place a sheet of paper the same size as your parchment paper on top of the recycled paper. Trace around the parchment paper with a pencil. Cut this outline with your scissors.
15. Carefully fold your recycled paper and your parchment paper in half.
16. Place the parchment paper inside your folded recycled paper. Tie it together in the crease with twine or string, and admire your work.

Activity Checklist

Show & Tell: Show the students the examples poetry pop-up book and other rhyming examples, like Shel Silverstein. Share what different rhyming poems mean to you- is there a childhood memory you can share? **Don't forget the PowerPoint that goes with this lesson.**

Use a Thesaurus: Teach the use of a thesaurus while teaching how to rhyme, and the student will immediately see a use for the thesaurus. Explain similes, "word shadows" and how these shadows can make a simple word much more mysterious or fun.

Create rhyming Sentences: Help the students create their own, 7-word rhyming sentence. It can be silly, but must connect in some way. In other words, it can not be seven completely disconnected words that happen to rhyme.

Microsoft Word: The students should input the poetry in Microsoft Word themselves. For each word, they use a separate page and at least one graphic that represents the word to them.

Create Pop-Up: Once the sentences have been typed, print the sheets and help the students create the Pop-Up Poetry book to show off their new talent.

Lesson Rubric

Score	Description
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ Focused on the lesson and project. ~ Good understanding of imagery. ~ Used an original verse. ~ Participated and cooperated with their group very well.
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ Focused on topic. ~ Average understanding of imagery. ~ Used an original verse. ~ Participated and cooperated with their group well.
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ Somewhat focused on topic. ~ Poor understanding of imagery. ~ Used an original verse. ~ Participated and cooperated with their group well.
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ Not focused on topic. ~ Poor understanding of imagery. ~ Did not use an original verse. ~ No or very little participation and cooperation with group.