



Green Schools Network

ACTIVITY SHEET

October 2010

Why talk about waste?



Waste is generated in various forms. Managing it is one of the essential services that municipal authorities are duty-bound to provide. It appears to be a simple enough affair—putting waste into a vehicle and unloading it at a dump. But then why do so many cities and towns across the globe suffer from rotting refuse piled up on streets and drains which leads to breeding of flies and rats and degrading urban environments? Do we have any role in curbing the waste? Can we do few things to reduce waste generation?

Name

School Name

Class Date

Gobar Gyan

Anything that is used and discarded, and is not required is known as waste. It is trash, garbage, rubbish, or junk. Waste is generated in various forms. In India, waste generation ranges from 200 gms to 500 gms per capita per day in cities ranging from one lakh to over 50 lakh population. Currently, the country generates over 40 million tones of waste every year. With more and more people coming to stay in town and cities, the volume is increasing everyday.



Did you know?

- Five out of six used glass bottles are thrown straight into the dustbin!
- Recycling one glass bottle saves enough energy to light a 15-watt energy efficient bulb (equivalent to 100-watt normal bulb) for 24 hours!
- The garbage in a landfill stays for about 30 years.
- In 1995 over 200 of the world landfills were full.
- In India, waste generation ranges from 200 gms to 500 gms per capita per day in cities ranging from on lakh to over fifty lakh population. Each person throws away approximately four pounds of garbage every day.



Hi! I am Pandit Gobar Ganesh. You will find me in Gobar Times—a magazine that tells you how your everyday life is linked to the world around you. Hooked, huh? If you want to know more about me and Gobartimes visit us at:

www.gobartimes.org

Activity I – Organizing a Yard Sale

When you clean your room/ house you often end up having things you don't need or don't want to use anymore. Sometimes you even realize that you have no more space to keep some things. So you plan to throw them away. But have you ever realized that there might be people who might want to use the stuff that you don't need anymore? So instead of throwing it away, why not have a yard sale and sell some of the stuff.



Follow these simple steps and have a yard sale of your own!!!

- Collect all the stuff you or your family don't need anymore.
- Put cheap prices on them.
- Invite people personally telling them that you will be having a yard sale on Sunday (since weekdays won't be appropriate since people go for work) and requesting them to come and buy stuff.
- If you're having the sale in school get it announced on the school intercom or tell your school teachers personally to tell their students about the yard sale.
- In this way you would also encourage other people not to throw away their stuff but sell it off!!!
- Have one such yard sale every month.
- Analyze how much do you earn per month!!

And so on.....

Months	No. of items sold	Amount Earned (₹)
First Month		
Second Month		
Third Month		
Fourth Month		

Activity II – Doing Paper Mache



Often when you proceed to another standard (e.g. from 4th to 5th) you want to throw away your old books which have your notes. Instead of throwing them away why not make wonderful objects from those used papers and decorate your rooms, classes etc. Must be thinking how can you make wonderful objects without recycling paper? Well, you can use Paper Mache. Why only school books, even old newspapers, dad's unwanted documents would also work!

How to make Paper Mache objects:-

First let's make the Paper Mache paste:-

Paper Mache paste is a liquid adhesive usually made using flour and water. It can be used as a paste for Paper Mache projects and also decoupage, collage, and book binding.

- All you need to make the paper mache paste is wheat flour and water.
- Simply add $\frac{3}{4}$ cups of flour to $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of water and mix it well until the mixture is smooth and creamy.
- To make the paste last longer, stir it well.



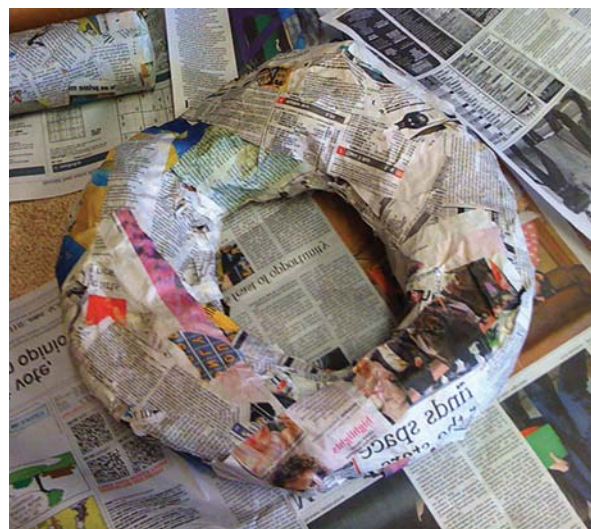
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If you live in an area with high humidity, add a few tablespoons of salt to help prevent mold.

If you don't like the smell of the glue mixture you can add a few pieces of cinnamon to sweeten it up!

Now let's now a bit about paper Mache forms before we begin making some wonderful objects. The form is the base of your paper mache project. You can use anything that you like, including balloons, cardboard boxes, other shapes, or any other material that has an interesting shape for paper mache ideas.

Now since we have learnt the Paper Mache Basics let's start making some beautiful objects.



All you need is:- Decorations, used paper torn about 1 inch wide and 6 inches long, poster paints and brushes.

■ Working with one strip of paper at a time, dip the paper into the glue and get it well saturated on both sides. Remove the excess glue with your fingers and place the strip on your form, smoothing with your hands. Do this gently so as not to tear the paper.

■ Continue working, adding the strips of paper to the form, slightly overlapping them as you go. Remember to let the glue dry at least for 24 hours before you apply the next layer.

- Keep going until you have the desired thickness.
- Once you've finished the layering and the glue is completely dry, paint your figure with the poster paint and brushes. Set the project aside once more so that the paint can dry, and then add decorative touches with tissue papers, beads, glitter or other items if desired.

For more information visit: familycrafts.about.com

Hey guys still have excess waste? Why not try the following?

- Donate some of your unwanted stuff to charity.
- Why not watch Art Attack on Disney channel to learn how to make some more interesting objects/toys out of waste.
- Maybe borrow some things from others if you need them for a short period of time.



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