CREATING PAPER YOU CAN PLANT

In this DIY project, we’ll recycle paper to make your own plantable paper by adding seeds and decorating with flowers.

**You Will Need:**
- Recycled paper
- Water
- Towels
- Mold & Deckle
- Large bowl
- Seeds (of whatever plant you would like to grow!)
- Small flowers (optional)
- Blender

**Steps**

1. **Prepare mixture:**
   - Cut or tear the recycled paper into strips until you have enough strips to loosely fill your blender.
   - Pour enough water in the blender to cover the paper strips.
   - Blend until the mixture is smooth.
   **Tip:** The smoothness of your pulp is up to you! You can add more water if you find your mixture too chunky or more strips of paper if you find your mixture too runny.

2. **Prepare the mold and deckle:**
   - Pour the mixture into a bowl filled about 1/3 full with water.
   - If you’re using flowers, sprinkle and press them into the bowl here.
   - Dip the mold and deckle into the bowl to collect the mixture.
   **Tip:** A mold and deckle is an essential tool for making paper at home. The mold is a frame covered with a screen, and the deckle is another frame or cover that goes into the mold. You can buy a mold and deckle, or you can make one at home using recycled wood picture frames and a window screen.

3. **Form your paper:**
   - Press the seeds of your choice gently into the mold and deckle.
   - Carefully lift and remove the mold from the deckle.
   - Carefully flip and place the deckle face down onto a cloth or sheet, then absorb the excess water on the deckle with a dry, absorbent towel.
   - Remove the deckle, then allow the paper to fully dry.
   **Tip:** Place your paper in direct sunlight when drying if possible.
   - Your paper is ready to use and plant!