

**MATERIAL**

## Rice Paper

Rice is another substance to create paper. The rice straws are found in swampy forests in Taiwan. To prepare writing rice paper, the rice straws need to be soaked then boiled to break up the fibers, then pounded. You need wooden frames where the mesh of rice straws is spread out in between two frames. The frames then are then put in water, then drained and gently peeling the newly formed paper off the frames. Rice paper extraction does not harm the growth of the trees which is beneficial to the forests. Rice paper also is dyed naturally, meaning this process does not require lots of harsh chemicals which is eco-friendlier than other materials used for paper.

## Bamboo Paper

Bamboo is also a material used to create paper. Bamboo is found in forests in Southeast Asia, South and Central America, and the Caribbean. It has good elements for the environment because its biodegradable, due to the fibers dissolving quickly. Bamboo paper also reduces soil erosion, do not require heavy bleaching and is eco-friendly, but would endanger the bamboo forests if it was a more common way of paper making. The process to making handmade bamboo paper includes: water, bamboo, mixing bowl, flour, spoon, mulcher, baking paper, and a blender. First you mulch the bamboo in the mulcher. Ten blend the bamboo shreds to make it extra fine. Combine flour, water and bamboo into a bowl. Spread the paste onto baking sheet, and let dry for two days.

## Grass Paper

Paper can be made out of grass, grown on lawns etc. The process from grass to paper includes cutting and grinding the grass with a mortar, adding caustic soda to release the cell contents, then washing and rinsing it to remove the chemicals. After, you add bleach and boil it, then you wash and rinse again to remove the bleach, and finally forming the paper. Paper made from grasses is better for the environment, rather than wood-derived paper, because it requires much less processing.