



RESEARCH:

History, Science, and Technology



While making paper from plant materials, you may have wondered:

- what plant materials other cultures use to make paper?
- what additional plant materials are available to you?
- how paper is made in mills?
- which museums hold collections on paper and papermaking technology?
- how to make paper that is thinner, smoother, or transparent?
- how to incorporate scents and color in your paper?
- what other products are called “non-woven” textiles?
- who are America’s most famous papermakers?

Log online to find answers to your questions and to discover other interesting topics related to papermaking. For example, you could research the contribution of paper mills to the state or national economy. How many different companies have operated paper mills in NY? How many exist today? Were they always built along rivers? What about environmental issues? How do large paper manufacturers dispose of waste and treat factory effluent?

Another interesting issue is hemp production. Farmers in 30 countries grow hemp for industrial purposes such as making paper. American farmers are not allowed to grow this crop because hemp and marijuana are different varieties of the same species *Cannabis sativa*, which is classified as a controlled substance. Study the arguments for and against reintroducing hemp into US agriculture.

Find out the etymology of our words “paper” and “bibliography”. They come from the Greek words (through Latin etymology) that refer to the food and textile forms of the papyrus reed!

Keywords Related to Paper Making

PLANTS	SCIENCE/TECHNOLOGY		TEXTILES (Non-woven)
Abaca (Manila Hemp), <i>Musa textilis</i>	Alkali	Couching	Dard Hunter
Bast fibers	Deckle	Decortication	Non-woven textiles
Grasses	Fourdrinier Machine	Mold	Paper
Wood pulp	Nagashi-zuki	Paper Mill	Stationery
	Pulp	Retting	Tyvek
	Sugeta		

References:

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6. Reimer, Mary and Reimer-E-, Heidi. 300 Papermaking Recipes.
7. Toale, Bernard. The Art of Papermaking.
8. USDA. Industrial Hemp in the United States: Status and market Potential. 2000. <<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/ages001E/ages001E.pdf>>