



OLD PAPER

Remember's Activities

Paper was a luxury in the colonies; Mem was very lucky to have her diary to record her daily life.

Things You'll Need:

Several sheets of paper
2 (9x13") baking pans or trays
Instant coffee crystals
Several tea bags
Paper Towels

Directions:

Preheat your oven to 150°F. The oven will be used at the end of the aging process to dry the paper.

Use the instant coffee crystals to make a 6-ounce cup of hot coffee. Make the coffee up to four times as strong as you usually would, adding extra crystals if desired. Brew a six-ounce cup of hot tea. The finished product will be lighter or darker depending upon the strength of the tea and coffee.

Pour a mixture of half coffee and half tea into the baking pan until it is about 1/4 inch deep. Reserve the remaining coffee and tea and refill as necessary. Soak the paper, one sheet at a time, in the coffee and tea mixture. Allow the paper to soak for ten minutes.

Carefully remove the wet paper from the pan. Lay flat on a second baking pan, soaking up any pools of liquid with paper towels. Bake the paper in the oven until dried. Keep a close eye on the paper in oven while it is drying.

For more artistic effects you could crumple up the paper into a ball and flatten it out once more. Continue to soak as usual. Sprinkle some of the instant coffee crystals on the wet paper before baking for a spotted look. You could also open up a tea bag and sprinkle bits of the leaves on the paper for a similar effect. Rub a dry piece of paper with a used tea bag before soaking for a feathery effect.

Ask a grown-up for help when using knives and other sharp objects, and when using candles. Be sure to use pot holders when handling warm wax.

A Journey to the New World

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Old Paper