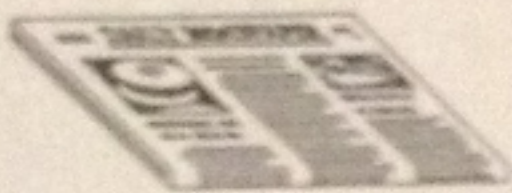


* Paper



Newspaper



Book



Paper Towels



Milk Carton

What would we do without paper? We write and draw on paper. We read books, magazines, and newspapers printed on paper. We wrap presents and decorate walls with paper. Schools, businesses, and the government use huge amounts of paper every day.

Most paper is made from wood. Wood has properties that help produce good paper. Wood fibers are very strong and hold together well. Wood fibers can also be treated to be stronger, to hold more liquid, and to be fireproof.

Both softwoods and hardwoods are used to make paper. At a paper mill, the bark is removed from logs. Then the logs are cut into tiny pieces. The pieces are cooked until they form a thick pulp.

The wood pulp is then washed and sprayed onto a screen. As water drains off the screen, a thin layer of wood pulp is left. This layer is pressed between rollers to make sheets. Next, the sheets are dried and pressed by hot irons. Then the sheets are cut up into different sizes.

Wood pulp is used to make a thin, clear material called cellophane. Meat and other foods are often wrapped in cellophane packages. Cellophane is waterproof and keeps air away from food. When it is heated, cellophane sticks to itself and makes a tight seal. Cellophane wrappings help keep many foods fresh.

Paper is also made from other plant materials. The best-quality paper is made from cotton rags. Tissues and paper towels may also be made from cotton rags.

A Answer True or False.

1. Most paper is made from oil. _____
2. The best-quality paper is made from cotton rags. _____
3. Wood fibers are very weak. _____

B The steps for making paper are listed below. Number the steps in the correct order. The first one is done for you.

- _____ Water drains off the screen, leaving a thin layer of pulp.
- _____ The layer is pressed between rollers to form sheets.
- _____ Pulp is sprayed onto a screen.
- _____ The pieces are cooked until they form a thick pulp.
- 1 _____ Bark is removed from the logs, and the logs are cut into pieces.
- _____ The sheets are dried and pressed by hot irons.

C Write the letter for the correct answer.

1. Most paper is made from _____.
(a) wood (b) rice (c) corn
2. Paper towels may be made from _____.
(a) cellophane (b) cotton rags (c) oil
3. Wood pulp can be used to make _____.
(a) trees (b) oil (c) cellophane

D Answer the questions.

1. What kinds of wood are used to make paper? _____

2. What are two ways that people use paper? _____

Medicines



Willow Tree



Purple Foxglove Plant

Most medicines today are made from chemicals in laboratories. But many of these medicines came from plants. For hundreds of years, people have used certain plants as medicines. Plants contain chemicals that affect the human body. Some of these chemicals can kill germs that cause disease. Others can speed up or slow down activities of the body.

People once used the bark of the willow tree to relieve pain and fever. In the 1800s, this drug was finally made in the laboratory. Today, this medicine, called aspirin, is the most common medicine in the world.

A drug called quinine was used for many years to treat a disease called malaria. The drug came from the bark of a tree that grew in the forests of South America. Quinine controls fever, but it does not cure malaria. Today, there are stronger, safer drugs used to treat malaria.

Digitalis is another useful medicine that comes from a plant. It is made from the leaves of the purple foxglove plant. Digitalis is used to make a person's heart beat more regularly.

Scientists study plants throughout the world. They hope that many diseases can be cured by the chemicals found in plants.

A. Answer True or False.

1. For hundreds of years, people have used certain plants as medicines. _____
2. Plants contain chemicals that can affect the human body. _____
3. Quinine came from the leaves of a tree. _____
4. Quinine can cure malaria. _____
5. Digitalis is used to make a person's heart beat more regularly. _____
6. Today, aspirin is made in the laboratory. _____
7. The most common medicine in the world today is quinine. _____
8. Scientists no longer study plants to find cures for diseases. _____

B. Draw lines to match the drug with the plant it comes from.

- | | |
|--------------|------------------------|
| 1. quinine | purple foxglove leaves |
| 2. digitalis | willow bark |
| 3. aspirin | bark of a tree |

C. Answer the questions.

1. What are two ways that plant chemicals affect the human body?

2. What was quinine once made from? _____

3. What is digitalis made from? _____
