Making Paper

**What you need:**
Old paper (anything but newspaper)
A piece of screen
A flat dish, a little larger than the screen
Four pieces of blotting paper the size of the screen
A bowl
A blender
A rolling pin
Newspaper and blotter paper
Two cups of hot water
Two teaspoons of instant starch (for stronger paper, if desired)

1. Tear the paper into very small bits into the bowl. Pour in the hot water.
2. Place the mixture in a blender a blend it to a pulp
3. Mix in the starch, if desired.
4. Pour the mixture into the flat dish
5. Slide the screen into the bottom of the dish and move it around until it is evenly covered with pulp.
6. Lift the screen out carefully. Hold it level, and let it drain for a minute.
7. Put the screen, pulp side up, on a blotter on some newspaper. Put another blotter over the pulp and more newspaper over that.
8. Roll the rolling pin over the sandwich to squeeze out the rest of the water.
9. Take off the top newspaper. Turn the blotter sandwich over so the screen is on top. Then take off the blotter and the screen very carefully. Don’t move the pulp. That is you paper.
10. Put a blotter on the pulp and let it dry.
11. Use the paper to write a letter to a friend. How is this paper different from normal drawing or writing paper?