



Yasmin - Why save paper?

What was your goal and what did you achieve?

I wanted to get the message across to separate the rubbish from landfill to recycling, and make sure everyone knows what to do.

My mum works in the library, so I decided to do something in there so I could get her help. I made a few signs (*for the bins*), one on top, and I made another sign and stuck it on the front.

That was in the primary class in the library so they could understand, and get the message across that you have to separate it so that it doesn't all just go in the one bin. I also changed the bag colour.

Who did you work with?

I worked with the Year 1 class and made these counting books and I helped some kids do them, and I also worked with the cleaners to get the bags changed, because they were all tipping them into the one big bag and then chucking it in the bin, so I got their help to separate it. The counting book is made out of recycled paper – it is blank and they can use it as they go.

How did you promote your ideas?

I shared it with a few of my friends, and obviously the classes and the people that were involved, and I got some help from my friends as well. Some of them helped me with the printing of pictures.

Each kilogram of recycled paper saves 40 kilowatts of energy. The posters show the savings in water, landfill, trees, energy and oil for each kilogram of recycled paper. Once I'm finished with this, I might stick it up somewhere around the school so that people can see it and it's not just stuck at home.

What was your biggest success?

At the same time as this project, the art show came on, so that was sort of lucky for me. I was quite happy to see that the kids were understanding it by the end of it.

After school I'd go in there and I'd open the bin and I'd be happy to see that it's coming along, people were understanding it and actually looking at the picture. When I went in there during the day and there were classes on, I could see them going over to the bin and taking their time to read it so there's more thinking going into it, which means that the paper is going to the right place.

Next steps?

I hope to continue it, I'm moving from the school next year so I might stick it up somewhere in the school so that people know about it. I've had a few conversations with the cleaners and asked them questions to help them try and help me with my project.

Your advice to other students?

If you work with younger students, do activities because it clicks with them, because if you just talk they don't really listen.

What did you enjoy most?

I enjoyed seeing the project come along and I enjoyed putting it all together and making the posters.

This case study was transcribed from an interview. These are Yasmin's words and opinions. Text in italics is from NRM Education.