

Visit to the Paper Factory

Excursion picnics, organized by the **SMILE**, have always excited me right from the beginning. These tours are not only fun but also a great platform for learning.

On 18 Oct 2019, I got an opportunity to be part of one such short excursion tour to a paper factory, organized by Santa Maria school, where my son Shaurya Sansanwal studies in class Prep A. This picnic was organized on the theme of “**Recycling Old Waste Papers**”.



We went to a paper plant, located in Vasant Kunj. This plant has been established by the **Airport Authority of India** to recycle their used paper. I have never visited any paper factory in my life, hence I was very excited from the moment I came to know about my visit to that plant. For the benefit/knowledge of all, I am putting down my experience. I hope that you will enjoy reading it.

At the very outset we were welcomed by the officer in-charge of the paper factory.



Later on he took us on a round to the paper factory, showed and explained about the various stages, involved in making paper. I must thank Prep -A class teacher Nandita ma'am for explaining each and everything in detail about the stages involved in papermaking. There are, broadly, four stages, involved in the papermaking. These are as under:

(i). Shredding: Since this plant uses recycled paper only, hence no trees are used for papermaking. Initially, old paper is shredded. Cotton is also mixed with paper, in the shredder, to obtain the paper of fine quality.



(ii). Pulp making: Shredded paper (mixed with cotton) is converted into pulp with the help of water. Medicinal treatment is also given to the pulp to protect it from termites and other insects.



(iii). Flattening/ drying the pulp: The pulp is then flattened in the machine and dried in the sun.



(iv). Sheet Cutting: During its final stage, the flattened paper is cut into desired sizes of sheets.

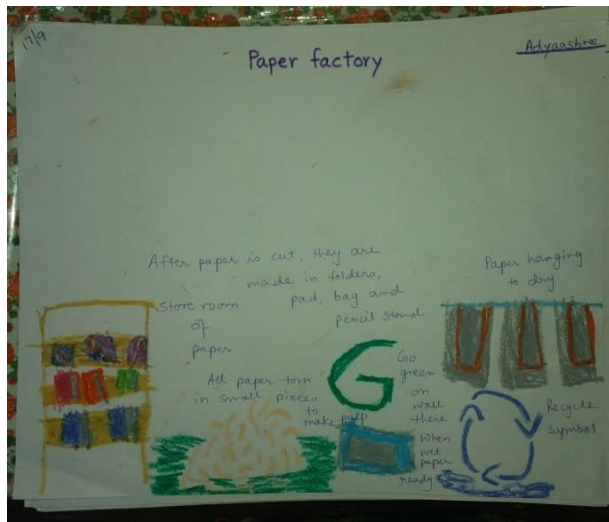
We were also taken on a tour to see the storage room, where we saw the final products of the recycled paper. They included beautiful handbags, coasters, files/ folders, tablemats etc. I was excited after seeing these products since I never heard about such wonderful products, made from paper.



When I came out of the paper factory, I was in awe. This was a very informative visit for the children as well as me. I must thank school administration for giving me an opportunity to be a part of this wonderful trip. I hope the school would continue to organize such events in future also for the benefit of the children.



Paper factory illustrations by the children



Thanks and regards,

Shivani Choudhary

Shaurya's Mother