

9. Paper facts

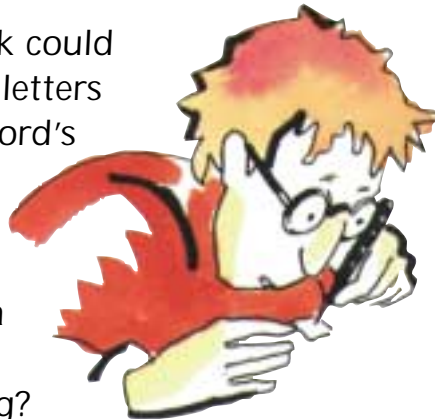
Here are some things you might not know about paper and toilet tissue!

- ❑ Until the 4th century AD, books were written by hand on rolls of papyrus or parchment (dried animal skin). These rolls were called **scrolls**.



- ❑ About 50 years ago a number of scrolls, about 10 metres long, were found in their original storage containers in caves close to the Dead Sea in Jordan. They were older than any books discovered before, and included copies of the Old Testament of the Bible. We think that monks hid them there for protection from the Romans.

- ❑ Frank Watts of Norfolk could write with such small letters that he could fit the Lord's Prayer on the back of a small postage stamp 34 times. Do you think he needed a magnifying glass to see what he was doing?



Now read the facts below. Draw a picture for each one so that you can make your own 'amazing fact' book. (You could cover your book with the 'marbled' paper from Activity card 4.)

Toilet paper was invented in 1879 by the Scot brothers in America. People were very suspicious of the idea and only the top hotels in New York would buy it.

Households in the United Kingdom spend more on toilet tissue than households in any other country in Europe.

The highest toilet in Britain is at the top of Mount Snowdon in North Wales. It is 3600 feet above sea level and is only open for 6 months of the year. Twelve miles of toilet rolls are delivered by the Snowdonia Mountain Railway Service during the summer.

The Savoy Hotel in London spends over £10,000 each year on toilet tissue.