Materials Needed
- o Scissors
- o 20 pieces of paper
- o Pencil
- o Cardboard box
- o Gift bag
- o Needle and thread
- o String, dental floss, strips of plastic or similar

Grade Range
K-2
3-5
6-8

Topics/Skills
Engineering
Art
Fine Motor Skills

Learning Standards
Engineering Design

Duration
20-30 minutes

Prep Time
5-10 minutes

Found Material Journal
Make a S.T.E.A.M. Journal from Used Packages

Gift bags, wrapping paper, shipping boxes, or cereals boxes make unique covers for a journal. Many of us throw writeable materials straight into the trash. Have you thought about repurposing those materials for learning? Try making a science journal using paper and items you can write on from your house.

Activity Challenge
Craft a journal to record data, notes, and drawings from found materials.

Preparation
1. Define a workspace and clean-up list after the activity is over.
2. Gather materials and tools from the Materials Needed list.
3. Decide on the size for your journal. We suggest 8.5" X 11" folded in half.
4. Consider adding a table of contents and/or page numbers. This can be done as a preparation step or a finishing touch.

To Do
1. Fold the stack of paper making the paper approximately 8.5" x 5.5".
2. Measure the folded paper against material for the cover.
3. Cut the cover about 1 inch larger than the journal pages.
4. Use a hole punch, safety pin, seam ripper or scissor to make two holes in the cover along with the folded side of the paper stack (see top left picture).
5. Thread string through the paper and cover.
6. Make a loop to connect the cover to the paper inside.
7. Title the journal cover *STEAM Journal: Science Technology Engineering Arts Mathematics.*

Observations
Decorate the journal with drawings, name, date and page numbers.

Extensions
- Have students make a table of contents that includes Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics.
- Encourage numbering all odd pages first then all even pages.