

Art Material Alternatives

The following tables contain suggestions for non-toxic, environmentally-friendly art materials that may be found in a classroom. A more comprehensive list of certified non-toxic school and education materials, visit the Art and Creative Materials Institute, Inc. at <http://www.acminet.org/CPListSearch.html>.

Neither the Illinois Waste Management Research Center, nor the Greening Schools program, endorse any of the supplied products or vendors. This list provides guidelines and suggestions for products to consider and to remind teachers and school administrators that choices exist. Prices and costs provided are subject to change. These are prices as of 2004.

Pencils-Regular and Colored				
Original Material	Alternative Material	Original Material Price (Vendor)	Substitute Material Price (Vendor)	Cost Difference
Pencils-Regular and Colored	Non-Toxic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Color Sanford \$1.79/box of 12 (Office Depot) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Color Crayola Pencils \$2.19/box of 12 (Office Depot) • Ticonderoga Checking • Faber-Castell • Crayon Factory No. 2 Pencil • Prang • Rose Art 	\$.40/set of 12 Difference
	Recycled Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular Sanford American Number 2 Pencil \$.04 (Office Depot) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blue Jean \$.24 • Money \$.24 • Cafeteria Plastic \$.24 • Wood-Amazing Recycled Products \$.06 (Office Depot) 	\$.02/pencil Difference

Crayons				
Original Material	Alternative Material	Original Material Price (Vendor)	Substitute Material Price (Vendor)	Cost Difference
Crayons	Soybean Crayons	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prang Regular 24 color box \$2.75 (Dixon Ticonderoga) • Prang Large 16 color box \$4.39 (Dixon Ticonderoga) 	N/A
	Non-Toxic	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crayola \$.69/box of 8 (Office Depot) \$1.69/box of 24 (Office Depot) • Rose Art • Xonex 	N/A

Notebooks				
Original	Alternative	Original	Substitute Material Price	Cost Difference

Material	Material	Material Price (Vendor)	(Vendor)	
Plastic Folders	Recycled Folders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poly 2-Pocket Folder \$.99 (Staples) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EarthWise Recycled Folders \$.36 (Staples) 	\$.63/folder Savings
Plastic Notebooks	Cardboard Cover Notebooks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vinyl 1" Binder \$5.99 (Office Depot) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wilson Jones Recycled Content 1" Binder \$4.99 (Staples) 	\$1.00/binder Savings

Paints, Glazes, and Enamels

Original Material	Alternative Material	Original Material Price (Vendor)	Substitute Material Price (Vendor)	Cost Difference
Acrylic Paint	Water-Based Paint	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 16 oz \$10.99 (Office Depot) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 16 oz Crayola Washable \$18.95 (Office Depot) 	\$7.96/16 oz Difference
Oil Paint	Non-Toxic Oil Crayons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 color Oil Paint set \$48.15 (Curry's) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prang Sketcho 12 color box \$6.39 (Dixon Ticonderoga Co.) 	\$41.76 Savings
Powdered Paint	Wet or Liquid Water-Based Paint			
Aerosol Paint	Non-Aerosol Paint			
Powdered Glaze	Wet or Liquid Glaze			
Powdered Enamel	Wet or Liquid Enamel			

Glue

Original Material	Alternative Material	Original Material Price (Vendor)	Substitute Material Price (Vendor)	Cost Difference
Epoxy or Instant Bonding Glue/Rubber Cement	White School Glue or Paste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rubber Cement \$1.49/4oz (Office Depot) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elmer's Washable School Paste \$.89/4 oz (Office Depot) Ross Kids Paste \$.49/4oz (Office Depot) Acron Glitter Glue 	\$.60-\$1.00/4 oz Savings

Paper

Original Material	Alternative Material	Original Material Price (Vendor)	Substitute Material Price (Vendor)	Cost Difference
Construction Paper	Recycled Construction Paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9 x 12 \$1.29 (Office Depot) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 90% Recycled 9x 12 \$.99 (Office Depot) 	\$.30 Savings for 9 x 12
Multi-Use Paper	Recycled Multi-Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-Use 20 lb Ream \$4.49 (Office Depot) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Great White 100% Recycled 20lb Ream \$5.49 (Office Depot) 	\$1.00 Difference/20lb Ream
Filler Paper	Recycled Filler Paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mead Filler Paper \$1.19/200 sheets (Office Depot) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mead Recycled \$2.29/100sheets (Office Depot) 	\$3.39 Difference/200 Sheets

Dye

Original Material	Alternative Material	Original Material Price (Vendor)	Substitute Material Price (Vendor)	Cost Difference
Cold Water Dyes or commercial dyes	Vegetable or plant-based dyes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$11.00/16 oz (Pro Color) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vegetable Coloring \$5.60/5 oz (Ward's) 	\$.44/oz Difference

Markers

Original Material	Alternative Material	Original Material Price (Vendor)	Substitute Material Price (Vendor)	Cost Difference
Markers	Water-Based Markers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permanent \$7.99/box of 12 (Office Depot) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crayola Pentel Rose Art Eberhard \$4.25/box of 12 (Office Depot) 	\$3.74 Savings

Chalk

Original Material	Alternative Material	Original Material Price (Vendor)	Substitute Material Price (Vendor)	Cost Difference
Chalk (Paper and Crafts)	Anti-Dust, Non Toxic		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crayola Colorex \$1.99/box (Office Depot) Crayola Colored Art Prang Pastello Prang Poster Pastello 	
Chalk (Colored for Chalk Board)	Anti-Dust, Non-Toxic		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crayola Anti-Dust Colored \$1.99/box (Office Depot) Crayola Sanigene, Hyga Color Elmer's Dustless Colored Chalk Ross Dustless Colored Chalk Rose Art Dustless 	
Chalk (White for Chalk Board)	Anti-Dust, Non-Toxic		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crayola Anti-Dust \$.69/box (Office Depot) Prang Hygieia Elmer's Dustless Ross Dustless Rose Art Dustless 	

Clay

Original Material	Alternative Material	Original Material Price (Vendor)	Substitute Material Price (Vendor)	Cost Difference
Clay in Dry Form	Ready-To-Use Non Toxic Clay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Earthenware Clay \$7.55 (Pottery.org) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crayola Modeling Clay \$2.29 (Office Depot) 	Not Comparable

Papier-Mache

Original Material	Alternative Material	Original Material Price (Vendor)	Substitute Material Price (Vendor)	Cost Difference
Instant Papier-Mache	Papier-mâché made from black and white newspaper and white paste (or flour and water paste).	Cellugray 1lb \$26.95 (ArtSupplies On Line)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Newspaper-free and White Paste or Flour and Water \$2.59/5lb bag (WalMart)	\$24.36/Savings