Zero Waste Basket Weaving

In celebration of Earth Day and our Zero Waste Initiative here at RAM, here's an upcycled art project that uses recycled materials that would have otherwise gone into the trash! Basket weaving is the process of interweaving objects made from a flexible material, in this case, newspaper. Baskets, mats, and bags are just some of the three-dimensional objects that can be made with weaving.

**Supplies**
- Newspaper
- Tape
- Scissors

**Directions**

1. Use the scissors to cut the full sheets of newspaper into two, using the middle seam as your guide.  
   TIP: You will need around 10 full sheets of newspaper for the sample shown.

2. Repeatedly fold all the newspaper sheets horizontally until you've created a one-inch folder panel or band. Crease the edges down as tightly as possible. Make a stack ready for weaving.
3. Take two panels and lay them down into a T shape. Add one panel to each side vertically as well as horizontally, weaving the panels back and forth through each other. **Tip:** Make sure to keep an even number of panels on the vertical and horizontal sides to stay proportional.

![Image showing two panels laid out in a T shape](image)

4. Once you are satisfied with the size of the basket’s base, use a few pieces of clear tape to secure the panels together where they meet.

5. Fold the panel walls up and continue to weave a singular panel through the folded pieces, making creases on the corners of the basket.

![Image showing panels folded and woven](image)

6. Continue weaving the panels through each other, building the four walls up while using small pieces of tape to secure any areas that may be wobbly or disjointed.

![Image showing panels woven together](image)

6. Trim the ends of the panels on the top edge of the basket with some scissors. Then, tuck or tape any ends that are loose or wobbly. **VOILÀ!** You’ve made your own upcycled basket!