



Science Activity

Invisible ink

Time to prepare: 5 minutes



□ Please, stay safe and ask a grown up to supervise you

Resources/ things you need

- A lemon
- Water
- Spoon
- Bowl
- Cotton bud
- White paper
- Lamp or other source of light

What to do

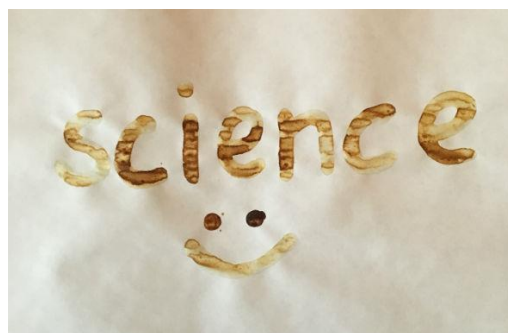
1. Squeeze some lemon juice into a bowl and add a few drops of water and mix it with a spoon.
2. Think of your secret message!
3. Dip a cotton bud into the mixture and write your message onto the white paper.
4. Wait for the juice to dry so it becomes completely invisible.
5. When you are ready to read your secret message, heat the paper by holding it close to a light bulb. You could also use a hairdryer or put the paper in the oven for a few minutes. **(Make sure you have adult help for this part!)**

Background and the link to learning

Lemon juice is made up of compounds containing a substance called carbon. This has no colour when it is at a normal temperature. When the lemon juice is heated, the carbon mixes with the air in a process called oxidation which changes the colour of the juice to turn brown.

This is a great example of how certain materials or substances can change their properties when heated.

Pictures



Link to other similar activities - Please see lava lamp, giant bubbles and rainbow walking water.

