



Invisible ink experiment

This low-tech invisible ink science experiment lets you send secret messages to friends and family. All you'll need is a little lemon juice or milk.

Commonly found household items make up the ingredient list, including juice, milk, honey, and vinegar.

Science part:

At room temperature, these compound liquids are colourless, making them perfect for invisible ink fun. Put them in contact with heat and the oxidization process turns them various shades of brown, aka, the ink appears!

Step 1

Gather your ingredients and tools. For this experiment, you need a piece of paper, a cotton swab, a heat source (a lamp or hair dryer, and milk or lemon.)



Draw or write your secret message.

Step 2 - adult supervision required

If you are using lemon juice, squeeze your lemon into a glass. You can mix it with a little bit of water. Dip your cotton swab into the milk or lemon juice and start writing your message. Let your message dry completely.

Step 3

Once dry, an adult should hold the sheet of paper over a heat source. You can use a lamp or hair-dryer.

Your messages will appear like magic!

Step 4

As the milk or lemon "ink" heats up, it will oxidize and turn brown. You can try this experiment with other substances such as vinegar, honey, or orange juice.