

Make Your Own Invisible Ink!

Did you know that you can write secret messages or draw secret pictures using invisible ink, and at the same time learn about Chemistry? It's true! Lemon juice is one type of invisible ink that you can use. When lemon juice is exposed to air, it darkens and becomes visible. This is because of the chemical properties of the lemon juice that cause it to oxidize when exposed to UV light or heat. You can reveal the message using the sun's UV light on a bright and sunny day. This will make the message appear just like magic!

This is a great activity in the summer because you can draw your pictures in the morning before it gets too hot, and later in the day you can set them in the sun and watch them reappear. Your toddler may not understand the chemical reactions that are happening, but they are still learning, and they will be filled with wonder and curiosity that will spark lifelong learning.

What you need:

- Q-tips
- Any white paper
- Lemons
- A cool place to write the messages
- A hot, sunny day



What to do:

1. Squeeze out all the lemon juice into a shallow cup or bowl and remove any seeds
2. Find a cool place without direct light to draw pictures and write messages with the Q-tips dipped in the lemon juice on printer paper. Once the pictures are complete allow them to dry in the same cool location out of direct light.
3. Once the paper is dry take the paper out into the sun and allow the sun's UV light to make the secret pictures or messages reappear.

Source: kiwico.com

weewatch.com

