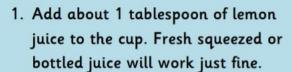
Invisible Ink

You will need:

- · Lemon juice
- Cotton bud or a paint brush
- Cup
- Paper
- Candle



- 2. Soak the cotton bud or paint brush in lemon juice and use it to write a message on your paper.
- 3. Once it is dry, it will be invisible.
- 4. CAREFULLY hold your paper over a lit candle to reveal your message – try not to set fire to the paper. Get an adult to help you and make sure you have a bowl of water next to you just in case!

You can also "iron" your paper but don't use the steam setting. Put a dry cloth between the paper and iron to protect the iron's surface.



THE SCIENCE

The paper discolours before
the rest of the paper gets
hot enough to do so. Lemon
juice contains carbon
compounds which are
colourless at room
temperature. Heat breaks
down these compounds and
releases the carbon. When
carbon comes in contact
with air (specifically
oxygen), oxidation occurs
and the substance turns
light or dark brown.

Try different fruit juices — or milk! — and compare the results.

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