Exploration Lab

Invisible Ink Messages

Ages 7-10 | (1) 25 Minutes



OVERVIEW

Write a secret message with invisible ink, that only you can reveal!

SUPPLIES NEEDED

- 2 Tablespoons Baking Soda
- 2 Tablespoons Water
- Dark Colored Juice (grape, cranberry)
- White Paper
- Small Bowl
- Q-tips
- Paint Brush or Cotton ball

ONLINE RESOURCES

Instructional video link

Instructions:

- **1.** In a bowl, mix the baking soda and water. Mix it well. (*See figure 1*)
- **2.** Using a Q-tip write your secret message on the paper. (*See figure 2*)
- **3.** Let it dry completely. (see figure 3)
- **4.** To reveal the secret message, dip your cotton ball or paint brush into the dark colored juice. Then gently "paint" over your message and it will appear! (See figure 4&5)



What's Happening?

The baking soda, a base, reacts with the grape juice, an acid, that makes it change colors on the paper.







