

Lemon Juice Invisible Ink Messages!

Any budding spies in the family?

This simple experiment allows you to send secret messages with just a lemon, and see the effects of an oxidisation reaction.

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| What you’ll need | Fresh lemons (or bottled lemon juice).  Bowl.  Light coloured paper.  Cotton bud or thin paintbrush.  Heat source – sunlight. |
| What to do | Squeeze some lemon juice into the bowl.  Dip the cotton bud or paintbrush into the ‘lemon juice ink.’  Write your secret message on the white paper using the cotton bud.  Wait for the ink to dry and become invisible.  Dry your paper in the sunlight. The writing will turn brown in the heat. |
| Top Tips | The lemon juice oxidises as it is heated, which is why it turns brown.  You can also try this experiment with vinegar, orange juice, milk or honey. |