

Creating and Using Invisible Ink

Follow the instructions to create and use invisible ink

Step 1: Making the Ink

Use a measuring spoon to measure out 1 tablespoon of water and pour it into a small cup.



Use a measuring spoon to measure out 1 tablespoon of baking soda and pour it into the same dixie cup.

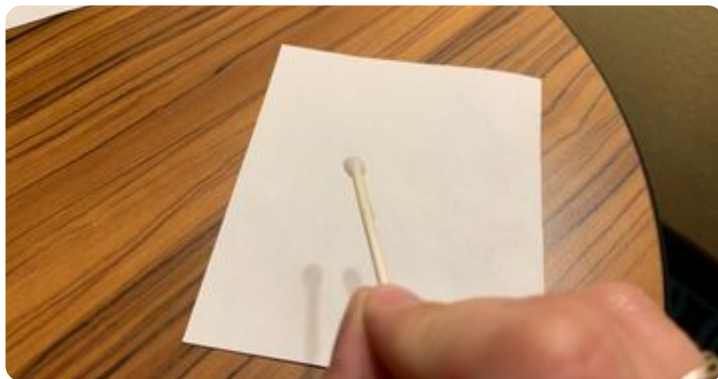


Use a paintbrush or cotton swab to mix the water and baking soda together until there are no more clumps.



Step 2: Using the Ink

Use a cotton swab, toothpick, or paintbrush to write a message in the space below, using the baking soda solution as "ink." Then allow the ink to dry completely.



Use the space below to practice writing your messages:

Step 3: Revealing the Message

Choose one of the options below to reveal your message. If there's time, try them all!

Hold the paper up to a heat source, such as a light bulb. The heat will cause the baking soda in the ink to turn brown, making it visible!



Use a clothing iron to heat the paper by ironing it. Note: set the iron on low and do not let it sit on the paper for more than a couple of seconds.



Use a paint brush or cotton swab and purple grape juice to paint over the message. The grape juice will cause a chemical reaction and cause the ink to change colors and become visible.



Step 4: Pass A Secret Message

After you have practiced writing and revealing secret messages, try to send a secret message to a classmate!

Use the space below to write your message.

- Trade papers with another classmate or group.
- You should be reading this step on a paper that is not your own.
- Use your favorite method to try and reveal the message in the box above!
- Once you think you have it figured out, write what you think the message is below:

- Give the paper back to the original owner.
- Was the message uncovered correctly? Share your results with your class!