

# Title: Secret Agent Invisible Ink

Age Group: School Age

Submitted by: Alicia B.



Type of Activity: Science (Oxidation)

## Materials:

- Pencil
- Small Bowl
- Fresh Lemon or Concentrated Juice
- Plain Paper
- Hair Blow Dryer or stove

## How to Do it:

- 1) Dip unsharpened end of pencil into the lemon juice.
- 2) Write an invisible message on the paper with the wet pencil.
- 3) Carefully hold the paper under a hair dryer or above a small stove element\* for approx. 30 seconds on high heat. **\*CAUTION: Parent assistance required**
- 4) Voila! Your hidden message will be revealed.

## Root Skill / Extension:

Cognitive: 4.5 Inquiry

What is happening? The juice from lemon oxidizes when it is heated, which changes its colour.

To extend learning, try using variables such as different types of paper (coloured, card stock); writing tools (Q-tip, paintbrush, wood skewer); liquids (milk, baking soda in water), or heat sources (clothes iron, lightbulb, candle) to experiment with.