

Invisible Ink Object Lesson

Materials

- ☐ One piece of card stock or watercolor paper or 4 index cards
- ☐ ¼ cup baking soda
- ☐ ¼ cup water
- ☐ 2 cups/containers
- ☐ Cotton swabs or small paintbrushes
- ☐ Lemon juice
- ☐ Food coloring
- ☐ Optional: tape

Instructions

The night before class: Mix ¼ cup baking soda with ¼ cup water and stir together in a cup to make “invisible ink.” Tear a piece of card stock or watercolor paper into 4 pieces or gather 4 index cards. Using a cotton swab or small paintbrush, write one letter of the word TRUE on each card/ piece (T on the first piece, R on the second, etc.). Number each card in order in the top corner. Allow “ink” to dry completely overnight then bring the papers to class.

Before students arrive: Tape/hide the papers around the classroom or wait and pass them out. Prepare other supplies.

During the Introduction: pass out the papers with the invisible ink, or direct students to find them taped/hidden in the room. Explain that to see the letter on each card, students will have to paint a special mixture over the paper.

Choose a student to come up front and mix together the lemon juice and food coloring then use a cotton swab or paintbrush to paint over the numbered side of the paper/index card. Watch as the letter appears! Have other students with papers come up and work together to paint the papers until all the letters are visible. Help students put the letters in order and attach to the board then read the word together, TRUE. Continue with the lesson in the Teacher Guide.