



# Messages And Secret Codes

## Different types of messages to write

A message in a secret code

Letters to post

A note in a bottle

An email

A tweet

A text message

A podcast/radio show

A blog

A newspaper article

A story

A tiny note to the fairies

During this time when we are not able to see others face to face, can you send a message to somebody to say thank you or tell them about your life at the moment and your plans for the future ?

## Creativity

Create your own secret code with a picture to represent the different letters of the alphabet. Write a message in code to a friend or relative.

Semaphor is a way of communicating with flags and lights. Can you create your own signals and send a message from a distance?

Find out how messages were sent in the wizarding world of Harry Potter?

## Books to Read

Tiddler *by Julia Donaldson*

The Jolly Postman *by Allan Ahlberg*

Meerkat Mail *by Emily Gravett*

The Day the Crayons Quit *by Drew Daywalt*

Letters from the Lighthouse *by Emma Carroll*

## PSHCE/ RE

The stories Jesus tells contain messages. Can you write your own story with a message?

Prayers are a way of communicating with God.

Write your own prayer .

Learn some sign language or Makaton.

Explore how sending and receiving messages makes you and others feel.

## Design Technology

Design your own bottle boat that will float. It needs to hold a note with your message on it and keep it dry while it travels across the bath or sink.

## History

Use the internet to find out about how people have sent messages to each other through the ages.

Research how messages were sent and received in WW1 and WW2

Find out about how Native Americans used smoke signals

## Science

Create your own invisible ink for writing secret messages.

## Geography

Draw your own map and plot the route your message will take. Which countries, cities, towns , rivers, oceans, landmarks will it pass?

## Challenge!

Is there a positive message you would like to get to everyone in the world at this time? Perhaps it involves spreading kindness or hope, or keeping people and our planet safe and healthy?

Write your message and see how many people you can reach!

## Useful Websites...

<https://www.readbrightly.com/childrens-books-to-teach-letter-writing/>

<https://imaginationsoup.net/writing-in-secret-code-motivates-kids/>

<https://www.melissaanddoug.com/blogpost?postId=6-secret-codes-for-kids>

<https://www.british-sign.co.uk/fingerspelling-game/>

<https://www.history.co.uk/history-of-ww2/code-breaking>

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/blog/world-war-two-facts-for-kids>

[https://academickids.com/encyclopedia/index.php/Smoke\\_signals](https://academickids.com/encyclopedia/index.php/Smoke_signals)

<https://www.iwm.org.uk/history/the-incredible-carrier-pigeons-of-the-first-world-war>

[https://stories.audible.com/discovery?ref=adbl\\_ent\\_anon\\_sc\\_ds\\_vn](https://stories.audible.com/discovery?ref=adbl_ent_anon_sc_ds_vn)

<https://abcdoes.com/abc-does-a-blog/2014/04/22/grannys-teeth-and-a-tooth-fairy-problem-solved/>

<https://www.sciencekids.co.nz/experiments/invisibleink.html>



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# Invisible Ink with Lemon Juice

Making invisible ink is a lot of fun, you can pretend you are a secret agent as you keep all your secret codes and messages hidden from others. All you need is some basic household objects and the hidden power of lemon juice.

## What you'll need:

- Half a lemon
- Water
- Spoon
- Bowl
- Cotton bud
- White paper
- Lamp or other light bulb

## Instructions:

1. Squeeze some lemon juice into the bowl and add a few drops of water.
2. Mix the water and lemon juice with the spoon.
3. Dip the cotton bud into the mixture and write a message onto the white paper.
4. Wait for the juice to dry so it becomes completely invisible.
5. When you are ready to read your secret message or show it to someone else, heat the paper by holding it close to a light bulb.

## What's happening?

Lemon juice is an organic substance that oxidizes and turns brown when heated. Diluting the lemon juice in water makes it very hard to notice when you apply it to the paper, no one will be aware of its presence until it is heated and the secret message is revealed. Other substances which work in the same way include orange juice, honey, milk, onion juice, vinegar and wine. Invisible ink can also be made using chemical reactions or by viewing certain liquids under ultraviolet (UV) light.

