

PARENT NOTES: Mixtures!

CODE REVEALING PEN



Today we learned that oil and water don't mix and used this knowledge to write secret invisible messages in wax, and reveal them with a water-based tea stain. We also built a pen to help us read secret invisible messages whenever we need to and thought about how wax is good for waterproofing materials.

ASK YOUR CHILD

What did you make today?

(A secret message and a pen to help uncover it)

Why does the tea show us the message?

(The message is written in wax which is a type of oil, and the tea is made with water. Oil and water don't mix, so while the tea stains the paper it can't stain the wax, revealing the message).

What else could you use apart from tea?

(Anything water-based with a dark colour. Food colouring and black coffee could also work).