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Chemical vs. Physical Changes Activity for Kids

Secret Message Writer DIY

 Duration: **15-30 min**  Difficulty: **Easy**  Cost: **\$0 to \$5**

Use a chemical change to create a secret message!

Material List

- 1 Cotton swab
- 1 Box of baking soda
- 1 Cup of water
- 1 Spoon
- 1 Sheet of white paper
- 1 Cup of blackberries

Instructions

- 1 Mix 2 tablespoons of baking soda into one cup of water.
- 2 Dip one end of a cotton swab into baking soda mixture and tap off any drips.
- 3 Use the wet cotton swab to write a message in the center of the paper.
- 4 Let the paper dry for about 10 minutes (until the writing disappears).
- 5 To reveal the message, carefully rub the blackberry back and forth across paper.

How It Works

After you write on the paper with the baking soda and water mixture, the water evaporates leaving trails of baking soda crystals. The purple pigment from the blackberry reacts with the baking soda crystals, forming a new substance! Since a new substance is formed, this is a chemical change.