

Ebook Code: RENZ1019





Written by Fiona Raynes. Illustrated by Terry Allen. © Ready-Ed Publications - 2003. Published by Ready-Ed Publications (2003) P.O. Box 276 Greenwood W.A. 6024

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ISBN 1 86397 561 6

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## Bubble, Bubble, Toil and Trouble ...

undreds of years ago alchemists were collecting ingredients for secret potions. One of their wishes was to create a recipe to transmute (change) cheap metals such as lead and copper into gold.

They experimented with many different ingredients. Some were easily found, for example leaves, water, milk, cobwebs and beetles. Others, such as moss from ancient gravestones, quicksilver (mercury) and crocodile teeth were harder to obtain. Urine, newts' eyes, bats' blood and old ear wax were disgusting. 'Vampires' fangs, fairies' tears and dragons' livers\* could be added for that special touch. Sometimes the alchemists would write their recipes in code to prevent others from copying them. Magical symbols and special chants were also used. The alchemists never succeeded in their quest for making gold but they did discover many techniques and new substances that modern chemists still use today.

Here is one recipe for making gold (unfortunately it didn't work!)

#### INGREDIENTS

- A brain from a small dog (still warm)
- 2 teaspoons of droppings from a pet white mouse
- A large dollop of fresh shail slime
- 1 pennyweight of unicorn horn (finely ground)
- 3 yellow feathers from the crest of a cockatoo
- A dozen copper coins

#### METHOD

Beat the first 3 ingredients together. Carefully pour the mixture into a small cauldron and heat until the mixture starts to froth and bubble. Slowly add the horn, pinch by pinch, and stir clockwise twice. When the mixture begins to glow, add the feathers and the coins, one at a time.

Remove from the heat and when the smoke clears you will find what you are after.

\* This is use of "artistic licence". Ask your teacher what this means.

Related Outcome Students recall details from a short text on alchemy and invent their own recipe to create gold.

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¢ È	Name:
	Bubble, Bubble, Toil and Trouble ACTIVITY
	Many years ago, tried to cheap metals into They never managed but modern are still using some of their other discoveries today.
	List two ingredients from the recipe that would be relatively easy and hard to obtain. Easy Hard
	00
	What is a cauldron?
	What does clockwise mean?
	What do you think you would have found once the smoke had cleared?
13	Concoct your own recipe for creating gold. Try to use a range of real and imaginary ingredients. Here are some tools you might use:
G	
2	
Ĺ	S Related Outcome Students recall details from a short text on alchemy and invent their own recipe to create gold.



# COMIC STRIP



Related Outcome Students compare the design of comic strips and then create their own.



### Fancy Dress Invitation



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The party will be held from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ on at

Some children have already decided what they are going to wear. Use the clues to discover their costumes. The first one has been done for you.

	Brittany	small child	baby	
	Grace	spectre		
	Alice	ET		
	Diana	GP		
	Shane	serpent		
	Wayne	abracadabra	Ť JS)	
	Paulo	sea robber		
	Jake	writes for newspap	ers	
	What would you wear? There are a number of abbreviations in this invitation. Write down what they mean (you may need to use a dictionary to help you).			
3				
	RSVP -		ps	
	p.m		_ph	
	Use your diction	the meaning of the following.		
		ATM -	NB	
			WWW -	
5	14	CD	VIP	
	Units	РТО	E.g	
		Find 3 more abbreviations and write down their meanings.		
		1		
		2		

 Related Outcome Students use the information found in a birthday invitation to complete a short cloze activity and identify common abbreviations. Students use their own knowledge to solve a puzzle.