

INVISIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find these "invisible" words and circle them.

invisible	disappear	covering
vanish	cloak	poof

F T S V W H C E T
 D I S A P P E A R
 Y N L N E M N W O
 S V I I G M D D T
 W I H S V E L A H
 A S H H M P E N B
 T I O M P O T E K
 T B S C L O A K U
 E L E N C F L R S
 R E C K B X R P H
 C O V E R I N G K



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THE CLOAK OF INVISIBILITY

By Ron Fridell

In the Harry Potter® books, Harry has a trick for escaping danger. He covers himself in a magic cloak that makes him invisible. Poof! Would you like to be able to disappear?

Right now, only make-believe characters like Harry can do it.

But that may soon change! Scientists have discovered how to make small objects disappear.

The secret is light waves. Light travels in waves that can bend. That's why a straw in a glass of water seems to zigzag. The light waves bend as they pass from the air to the water.

Scientists wanted to bend light around an object the way water in a stream flows around a stone. Then the object would not pick up any light waves. It would be invisible to human eyes.



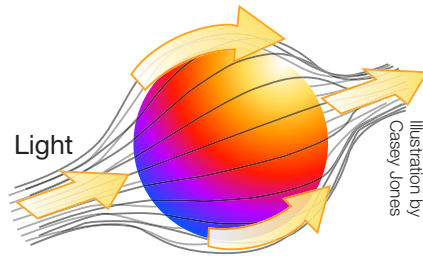
Illustration by Judy Martin

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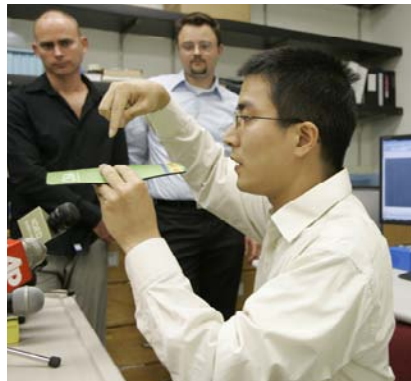
INVISIBILITY

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Here's how the scientists did it. They made tiny metal threads that bend light waves and turn them away. They wove the threads into coverings that look like nets. When they lay a covering over a small object, the covering and the object seem to vanish.



With the new covering, light bends around an object like water around a rock in a stream.



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Scientist Jie Yao demonstrates the invisibility material.

So far, scientists can make only very small coverings for small objects. Next, they want to make bigger coverings. What if they can make them big enough to cover a person? Then, poof! You, too, could be invisible!



This coat uses a camera to project the image behind it onto the front. But an invisibility cloak could look like this.

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Write About This!



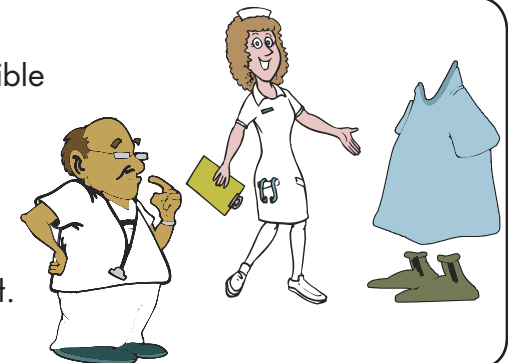
Illustration by Nora Voutas

Think about being invisible. What would be good about it? Make a list of good things about being invisible. What would be bad about it? Make a list of bad things about being invisible. Write an exciting story about an animal or a person who has just turned invisible. Use your list to help you.

JOKE

Nurse: Doctor, an invisible man is here to see you.

Doctor: I can't see him now. Bring in the next patient.



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