

# American Academy

## REFLECTIONS

One easy way spies can disguise a message is to write it so it's readable only when held up to a mirror. Mirror image writing is not a great way to hide top secret information, as it's fairly easy to decipher. But it's a good method in a pinch—and especially useful when the words are actually code words for something else. That way, if the wrong person finds the message and deciphers it, they still will not know what it means.

MOVIE THEATER  
BLUE BIKE TO

The trick of it: Write your message backward, from left to right. You have to write the word backwards AND you have to write each letter backwards in order for it to look perfect when held up to a mirror. For example, the letters O and V look the same when viewed in a mirror or on paper, but letters like R, L, K, and S have to be written backward.

