

Lesson Title: Code like the Ancients!

Grade: 6/7

Lesson Time: 60 minutes

You will need:

- A blank piece of paper, pencil, erasers, colours as you wish.
- Optional: playdough or clay

Lesson:

Watch the following the video on hieroglyphic codes!

<https://ed.ted.com/lessons/the-race-to-decode-a-mysterious-language-susan-lupack>

Activity:

1. Create a hieroglyphic code like below. You make up your own symbols!
2. Once you have a symbol for every letter of the alphabet, come up with a secret message for a family member to decode.
3. If you have playdough or clay available, roll out a long sheet and carve your message into it! This will add a little authenticity to the activity.

A Cuneiform "Alphabet"

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