

The History of Writing Surfaces

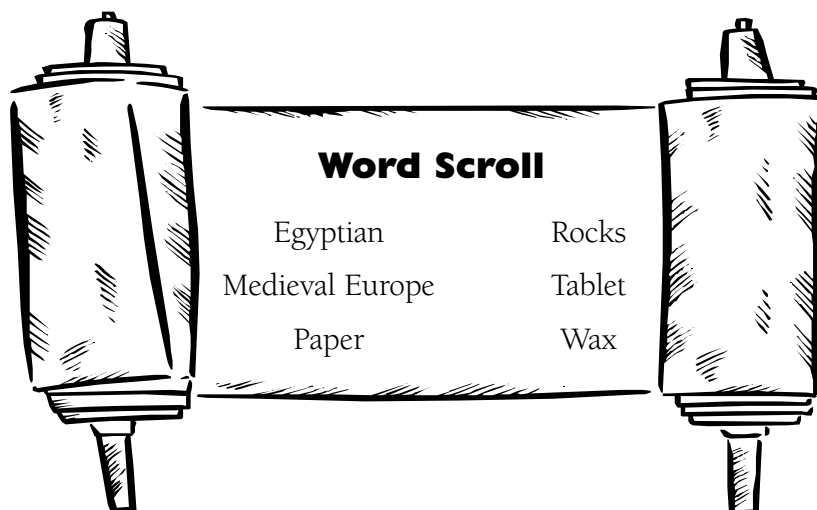
Match & Patch Activity

Directions: Use the words from the “Word Scroll” below to fill in the missing spaces on the grid. Be prepared to discuss your choices.

Example:

Writing Surface	Natural Resource	Culture
Paper	Cloth and linen rags	Colonial America

Writing Surface	Natural Resource	Culture
Cave Wall		Stone Age
	Clay	Sumerian
Papyrus	Reeds	
Tablet		Roman
	Hemp Fibers	China
Parchment	Animal Skins	



Extra Credit: Use the back of the paper to write a factual sentence using all of the words in one row.

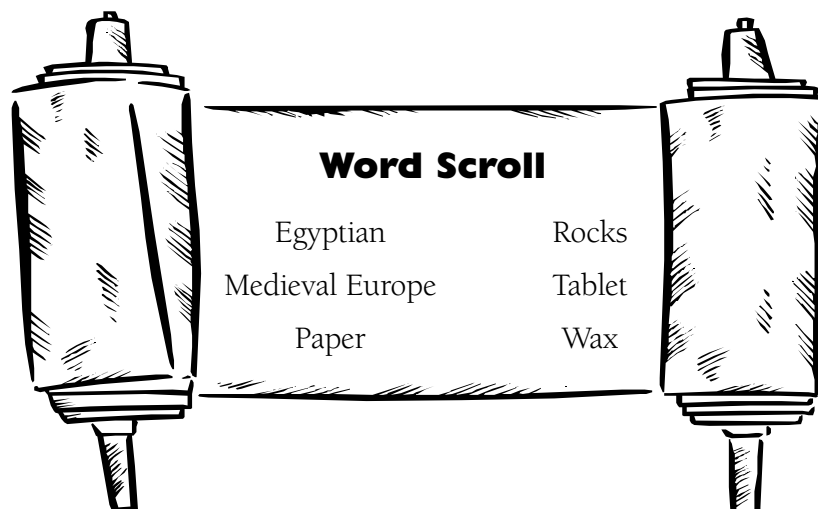
EXAMPLE: Colonial Americans wrote letters to each other on paper that was made from linen and cloth rags.

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Match & Patch Activity Answer Key

Writing Surface	Natural Resource	Culture
Paper	Cloth and linen rags	Colonial America

Writing Surface	Natural Resource	Culture
Cave Wall	<i>Rocks</i>	Stone Age
<i>Tablet</i>	Clay	Sumerian
Papyrus	Reeds	<i>Egyptian</i>
Tablet	<i>Wax</i>	Roman
<i>Paper</i>	Hemp Fibers	China
Parchment	Animal Skins	<i>Medieval Europe</i>

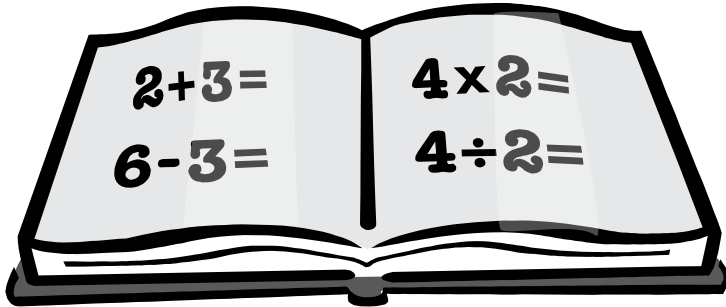


Tricking the Tallyman

Extension Activities

• Math

Explain to students that certain words represent a specific amount of years. For example, *millennium* = 1,000 years; *century* = 100 years; *score* = 20 years; *decade* = 10 years. Write the following conversions on the board and ask the students to fill in the blanks. (Answers are in parentheses.) Instruct the students to add the total number of years in order to fill in the last blank.



7 Centuries = ____ years (700)

3 Decades = ____ years (30)

1 Millennium = ____ years (1,000)

3 Score = ____ years (60)

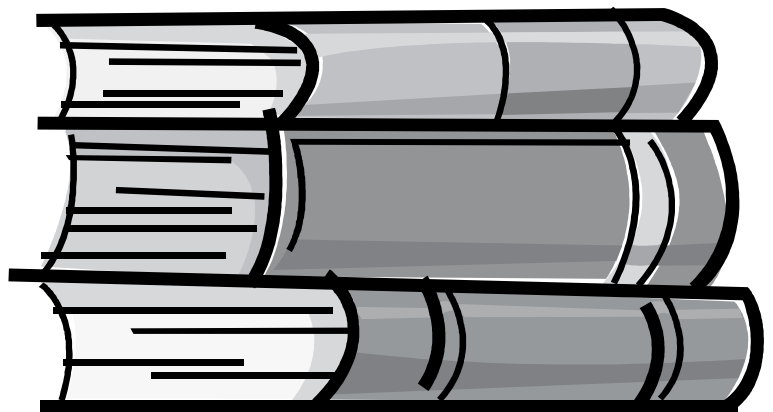
TOTAL: _____

The answer is 1790, the year of the first U.S. Census. Challenge the students to create and share their own “Year Conversions” using important dates in history such as 1492, 1776, and 2011.

• Reading Extensions

Students who enjoy picture books with historic content may find these titles interesting:

- *Colonial Voices: Hear Them Speak* by Kay Winters. Penguin, 2008.
- *George Washington’s Teeth* by Deborah Chandra and Madeleine Comora. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2003.
- *Independent Dames: What You Never Knew About the Women and Girls of the American Revolution* by Laurie Halse Anderson. Simon and Schuster, 2008.
- *John, Paul, George & Ben* by Lane Smith. Hyperion, 2006.
- *Lincoln Tells a Joke: How Laughter Saved the President (and the Country)* by Kathleen Krull and Paul Brewer. Harcourt, 2010.
- *Noah Webster: Weaver of Words* by Pegi Deitz Shea. Boyds Mill Press, 2009.
- *They Called Her Molly Pitcher* by Anne Rockwell. Dragonfly Books, 2006.



Tricking the Tallyman

Extension Activities

• Vocabulary

Jacqueline Davies's website contains a section for teachers. Here you will find a word search activity sheet based on vocabulary words found in *Tricking the Tallyman*: http://www.jacquinedavies.net/downloads/wordsearch_tallyman.pdf.



• Web Resources

- The website, **Educational Resources at the Census Bureau**, provides links to many multidiscipline lesson plans and classroom activities. Visit it at <http://www.census.gov/mso/www/educate/resource.htm>.
- A K–4 Teachers' Guide created by Scholastic includes worksheets and activities can be found at http://www.census.gov/schools/pdf/materials/cis_lesson_k4US.pdf.
- Also available is an excellent interactive page that includes grade-appropriate coloring pages, word finds, memory games, state facts, and a "Census for Kids" song: http://www.census.gov/schools/census_for_kids/.

• Writing

A fable is a short tale that often features animals that act like humans, and ends with a moral or lesson. On the cover of *Tricking the Tallyman*, the careful observer will spot a mouse peering over the brim of Phineas Bump's hat. (This mouse also appears throughout the book.) Encourage the students to write and illustrate a fable based on the book's content from the point of view of this mouse. Brainstorm possible morals before writing. Some ideas include: "Honesty is the best policy," "Good things come to he who waits," and "Anything worth doing is worth doing well."

