Make a paper writing tablet

Ages 7-11 | Activity sheet

Write inside the panels. Fold the paper on the dashed line.

FOLD

Make a paper writing tablet

Ages 7-11 | Grown-up notes and ideas

You will need

The PDF, a pencil and crayons; scissors are optional with adult help.

Try it together

1. Write a message inside the two panels using a pencil. 2. Colour the frame to look like wood, keeping the message readable. 3. Fold on the dashed centre line and pass the message to a partner.

Check, discuss and extend

A modern pencil mark differs from a groove in wax. Ask which parts might survive after the wax was lost and what would make the message difficult to read.

History and context

Some Roman wooden writing tablets had wax surfaces written on with a stylus. Our version uses paper and pencil, with no hot wax or sharp tools.

Explore the evidence

London Museum: Roman wax writing tablets

https://www.londonmuseum.org.uk/about/press/press-releases/underground-vaults-open-free-exhibition-early-roman-london/