

Student Activity Worksheet: Write a Scientific Question Based in History

Directions: After you have read the article "[These chemists cracked the code to long-lasting Roman concrete](#)," follow the prompts below to write your own scientific question about a historical artifact. For guidance on writing scientific questions, check out the lesson plan "[Why ask scientific questions?](#)"

Tapping history for clues

Think of a historical artifact or structure that you've studied. It could be anything from a clay pot found in an archaeological dig to the pyramids of Giza.

1. What artifact or structure did you choose? What about your object makes you curious? What questions do you have?

2. How could you use science to answer one of your questions?

3. Write a scientific question about your chosen historical artifact. Because your object might be quite old and not have a written record, there will be limits to what you can discover. Consider those limitations when developing your question. Scientific questions should lead to measurable results, and the variables under consideration need to be controllable. Investigation using observation, scientific tools or computer simulations should help answer your question.

