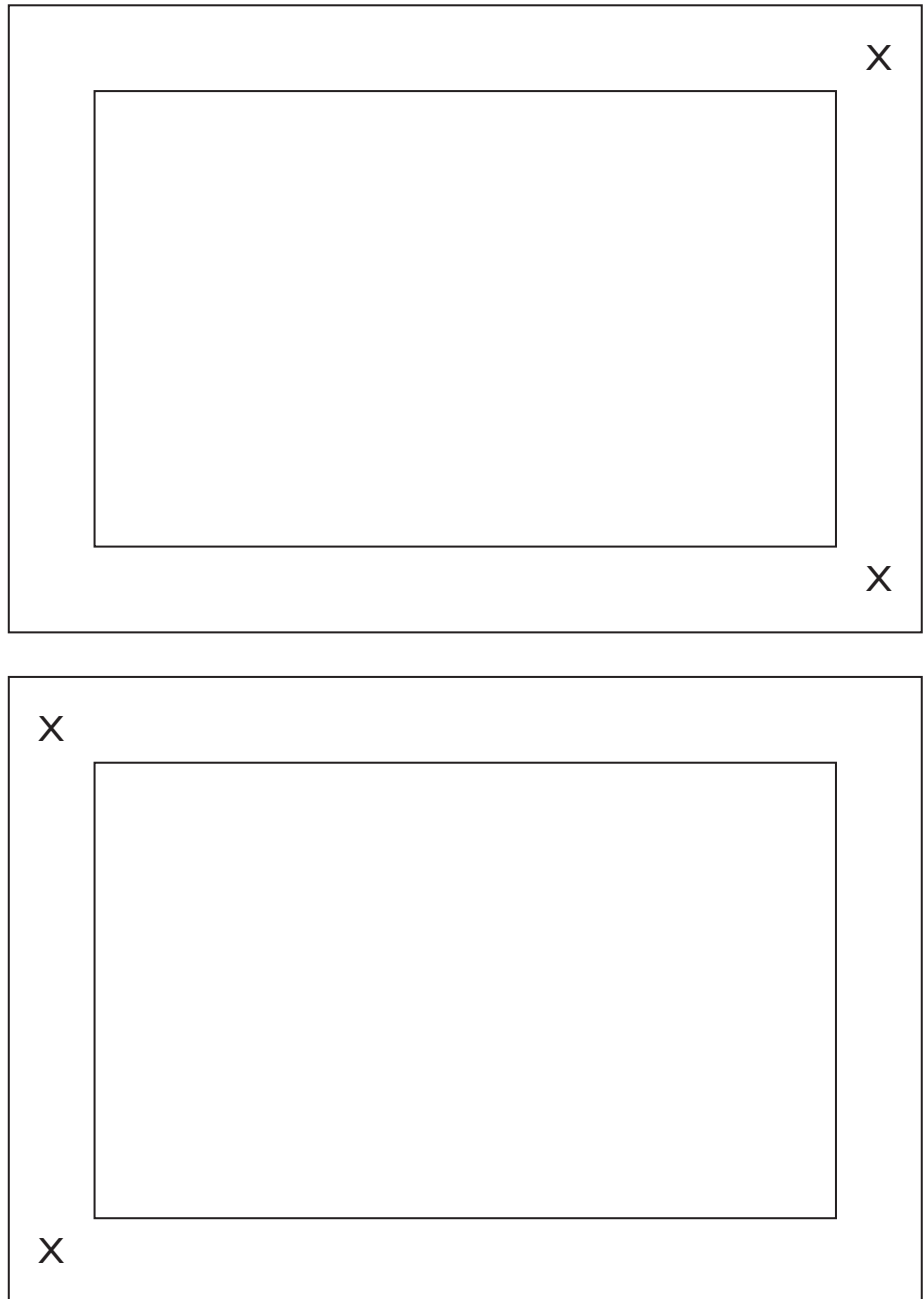


Make a writing tablet

1. Cut out the two outlines for the tablet and stick them on cards.
2. Cut strips of card to fit on the border of each outline. Build up the border to a depth of three or four strips.
3. Smear a layer of Plasticine inside the borders to make the tablet. Alternatively cut out a piece of paper to fit inside the border and rub a wax crayon all over one side then stick the paper inside the border.
4. Make a hole at each X in the border and put piece of string through.
5. Join the two tablets together with the pieces of string so that they may be folded open or closed.
6. Use a stylus to write in the tablet.



Make a writing tablet

Age range

- Years 3/4 (SP4/5).

Resources

Pieces of card, scissors, string, Plasticine or paper and wax crayon, piece of wood with a point to act as a stylus.

Using the worksheet

You may wish to introduce this activity either before or after activity **7B** on the Roman alphabet. The students should not work in groups but make one writing tablet each. Tell the students that the tablets were made using molten beeswax but for safety reasons they will use Plasticine or use wax from a crayon.

Younger students

Go through the instructions with the students then let them make the tablet. They may need help smearing the Plasticine to a thickness of a few millimetres. Once the tablets are made they can be used for writing words using the Roman alphabet. You may like to use them when the students are using Roman numerals too.

Outcomes

The students can:

- Use simple materials and equipment safely.
- Follow instructions.
- Produce a model of a writing tablet.