

# LESSON PLAN

## Step 3

### PUZZLE PIECES

#### Objectives

- Identify how archaeologists use typology to interpret artifacts.
- Interpret sample artifacts.

#### Materials

- Copies of the the Take-Home Page, page 11.
- Pens or pencils.

#### Subjects

Social studies, science, language arts

#### Procedure

1. Ask your students to imagine that they are expert archaeologists somewhere far in the future. Tell them that recent excavations have unearthed what appear to be several artifacts from the late twentieth or early twenty-first century. So far, no one has been able to identify the function and purpose of the artifacts. The field drawings and artifact descriptions have been turned over to the foremost experts (your students) for examination.

2. Give each student a copy of the Take-Home Page. Tell them that they will need to examine their collection of artifacts (at home, school, or a friend's house) to determine any similarities between their artifacts and those in the field drawings.

*(Be sure your students understand that the artifact drawings depict only pieces of larger objects, much as archaeologists might find.)*

3. After your students have completed the Take-Home Page, ask them what they think each artifact is and what features of the field drawings or descriptions led them to their conclusions.

*(Explain that archaeologists use the term typology to describe the matching of recently uncovered artifacts with previously identified artifacts.)* In some cases you may find that students may not have identified all of the artifacts correctly. Provide the correct answers with explanations as necessary.

4. Conclude the activity by telling your students that archaeologists often use typology to relatively date artifacts (especially pottery fragments). Stress that this is challenging work that requires years of specialized study. Note that archaeologists often only have fragments of artifacts to compare with other fragments, which may be thousands of years old.



*Archaeologists meticulously examine artifacts to learn more about the past. (Oahe Reservoir, South Dakota)*

#### ANSWER KEY:

##### Object 1

Television/VCR remote control

##### Object 2

Floppy disk

##### Object 3

Door key

##### Object 4

Fragment of a fork

##### Object 5

Base of a light bulb

##### Object 6

Portion of a cassette tape

##### Object 7

Modular telephone plug

##### Object 8

Prong to an electrical cord

#### CLAVES PARA LAS RESPUESTAS:

##### Objeto 1

Control Remoto de Televisión-VCR

##### Objeto 2

Disquete de Computadora

##### Objeto 3

Llave de una Puerta

##### Objeto 4

Pedazo de un Tenedor

##### Objeto 5

Base de un Bombillo

##### Objeto 6

Parte de un cassette

##### Objeto 7

Enchufe de un Teléfono

##### Objeto 8

Punta de un Cable Eléctrico

# TAKE-HOME PAGE

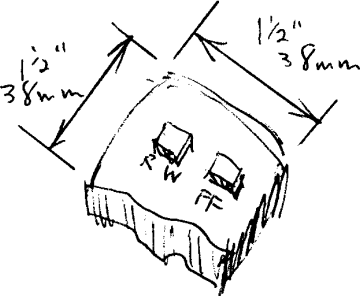
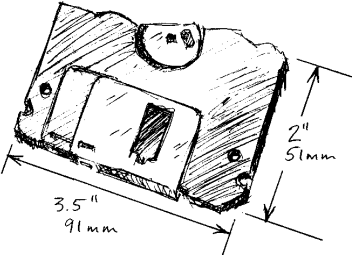
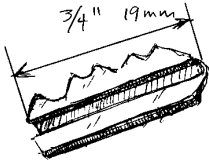
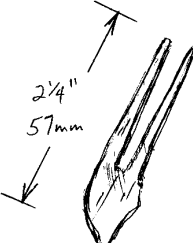
## Puzzle Pieces

### To the teacher

- Duplicate this page for students.
- Use with Lesson Plan Step 3.

Publication of *Art to Zoo* is made possible through the generous support of the Pacific Mutual Foundation.


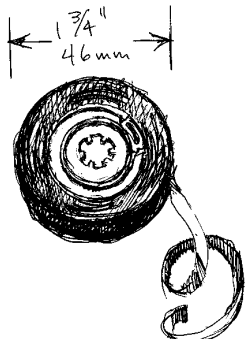
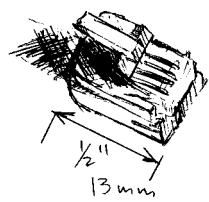
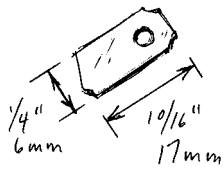
**Directions:** Imagine you are an archaeologist in the future. Because you are an expert on objects from the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries, you have been asked to identify several artifacts found in a recent excavation. Compare the sketch of each object to examples you have in your own “collections” at home or at school.

Object	Description	What is it?
	<p><b>Object 1</b></p> <p>Fragment of black plastic object with two rubber buttons. The writing below the buttons is difficult to read. The letters “FW” and “RW” are visible under two of the buttons.</p>	
	<p><b>Object 2</b></p> <p>Fragment of gray plastic and shiny metal. Square in shape with movable metal piece near bottom. Portion of a circular metal piece at the top of the object.</p>	
	<p><b>Object 3</b></p> <p>Fragment of highly polished, silvery metal. Several different notches along the top edge. Deep groove in side of object.</p>	
	<p><b>Object 4</b></p> <p>Metal object with two long prongs. The prongs have sharp points.</p>	

# TAKE-HOME PAGE

## Puzzle Pieces

Continued from page 11

Object	Description	What is it?
	<p><b>Object 5</b></p> <p>Intact rounded object with grooves and black ceramic case. Glass fragments attached to object. Glass fragments may have been part of a larger glass globe.</p>	
	<p><b>Object 6</b></p> <p>Plastic spool with a long, thin, brown plastic strip wound around it. The spool has six notches and a groove to attach it to the end of the plastic strip.</p>	
	<p><b>Object 7</b></p> <p>Small, square, clear plastic object. Bendable plastic strip attached to object at one end. Gray cable with four colored wires (yellow, black, green, and red) attached to other end of object. Wires visible as they lead into the square, clear plastic.</p>	
	<p><b>Object 8</b></p> <p>Small, shiny, metal object with round hole in the side of one end. Two of these objects were located near each other.</p>	

# TRABAJO PARA HACER EN FAMILIA

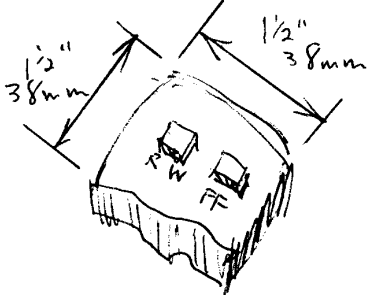
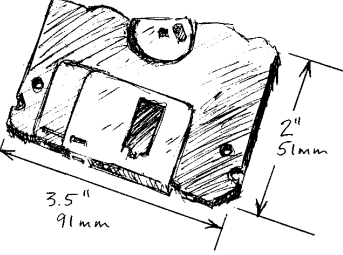
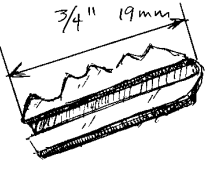

## Piezas del Rompecabeza

### Al Profesor

- Copie esta página para los alumnos.
- Usela con el tercer paso del plan de la lección.

Esta publicación ha sido posible gracias al generoso aporte de la Pacific Mutual Foundation.

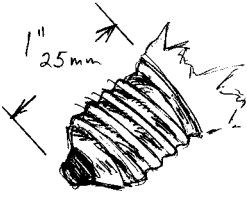
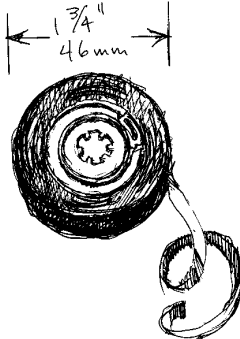
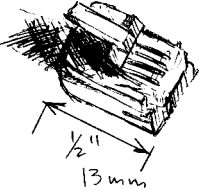
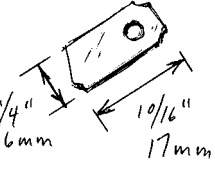
**Instrucciones:** Imagínesse que Ud. es un arqueólogo en el futuro. Como Ud. es un experto en objetos de finales del siglo veinte y principios del ventiuono, se le ha pedido que identifique varios artefactos hallados en una reciente excavación. Compare los dibujos de cada objeto con las muestras que Ud. tiene en su propia “colección” en su casa y escuela.

Objeto	Descripción	Que es?
	<p><b>Objeto 1</b></p> <p>Fragmento de un objeto negro en forma de caja con dos botones de plástico. Aunque es difícil leer lo que está escrito debajo de los botones, las letras “FW” y “RW” son legibles.</p>	
	<p><b>Objeto 2</b></p> <p>Fragmento de plástico gris. Tiene la forma de un cuadrado con una pieza movable en la parte de arriba. La pieza movable es de metal y tiene una ranura.</p>	
	<p><b>Objeto 3</b></p> <p>Fragmento de metal brillante. En la parte superior tiene varias protuberancias aserradas. Una ranura profunda se encuentra al costado del objeto.</p>	
	<p><b>Objeto 4</b></p> <p>Objeto de metal con dos largas protuberancias. Las protuberancias son puntiagudas.</p>	

# TRABAJO PARA HACER EN FAMILIA

## Piezas del Rompecabeza

Continúa en la página 13

Objeto	Descripción	Que es?
	<p><b>Objeto 5</b></p> <p>Objeto redondo con ranuras y una base de cerámica negra. Fragmentos de vidrio están adheridos a la base. Los pedazos de vidrio parecen haber sido parte de un globo de cristal aun mayor.</p>	
	<p><b>Objeto 6</b></p> <p>Carrete plástico con una cintilla larga y delgada de color café que lo envuelve. El carrete tiene seis lados y una ranura que sostiene la cintilla plástica en su sitio.</p>	
	<p><b>Objeto 7</b></p> <p>Pequeño objeto rectangular de plástico transparente. Una banda de plástico flexible sobresale por uno de los extremos. En el otro extremo hay un cable gris que contiene cuatro cables mas pequeños (de color amarillo, negro, verde, y rojo). Hay cables visibles a través del rectángulo plástico transparente.</p>	
	<p><b>Objeto 8</b></p> <p>Pequeño objeto de metal brillante con un hueco en la parte de arriba. Dos de estos objetos fueron encontrados uno cerca del otro.</p>	