

## Discover and explore

### Take a look at the objects

**Objects: All 3D-Digitized Objects in the At Home in Culture project**

(<https://sketchfab.com/Museovirasto/collections/making-home-abroad>)

Check out the items in the learning materials package. Where do you think any object came from? What are objects? What have they been used for or what could they have labeled their users? If you don't know, guess what. Select one item. Read the description of the object below the 3D model and, if possible, find out where the object came from and what it was used for. You can also search the web for more information based on the description text. Introduce your chosen item to your pair / small group.

### Play researcher

**Objects: Clay prism (VK6400: 6), Clay board (VK6400: 5), Clay nail (VK5738: 2), Clay cylinder (KM6560), Clay boards (KM13631: 1-11), Fragment of Prism (KM12332: 1-2)**

Among the 3D models, there are many objects with cuneiform writing, that each had different uses. Suppose you work as a scientist in a world where nothing is known about ancient Mesopotamia. You will receive the cuneiform writing included in this study material. Based on them, it is your job to find out what the culture of the ancient Mesopotamians was like. Check out the items (<https://sketchfab.com/Museovirasto/collections/making-home-abroad>) and read their info texts. What do you find out? What did people believe? What was the structure of society like? What kind of everyday information do objects reveal? What was cuneiform writing used for?

### Islamic coins

**Items: Gold Coin (VK5738: 5), Silver Coin (VK5738: 6) and Copper Coin (VK5738: 7)**

Three Islamic coins belong to the so-called Kekkonen collection, ie items that President Kekkonen received as a gift from the Iraqi state at the opening of the Amos Anderson Museum's exhibition on Mesopotamia in 1977. One of the coins is gold, one silver and one copper. Read more about the coins below.

**Gold coin:** An Abbasid coin (1 denarius) minted in Madinat as-Salam (Baghdad) under the reign of Caliph al-Muktafi bi-Allah (902-903 Jan. / 290 AH).

**Silver Coin:** An Abbasid-era silver coin (1 dirham) minted in al-Abbasiya near Baghdad during the reign of Caliph al-Mahdi (782-783 Jan. / 166 AH). Abbasid-era coins were typically minted with information about the ruler and the time of minting the coin. In addition, they typically featured one of the six kalimas of Islam, a religious phrase that defines the doctrine of monotheistic religion as one of God and Muhammad as a prophet of God.

**Copper coin:** The image shows a seated figure with a crowned head, holding a crescent moon. A character above both knees is a star. The inscriptions on the coins say that the coin was minted by Emir Nasir al-Din. During Mahmud's rule of Mosul (1223-24 CE / 620 AH). Nasir al-Din Mahmud was the last Persian, the last ruler of the Zengid dynasty.

View and compare the three coins and read the information written about them. What kind of information do coins convey to the viewer? What do they tell about the history of Islam?