

Mystery Cache Puzzle Pack

5 CODE-BREAKING CHALLENGES + ANSWER KEY

CAN YOU CRACK THE CACHE?

Decode secret messages to discover the final password.

- 01 Shift the Letters
- 02 Numbers to Letters
- 03 Mirror Alphabet
- 04 Symbol Secrets
- 05 Map Grid Code



Explorer name: _____

Date: _____

How to play:

Use the code key on each page, write the hidden message,
and collect the secret word for the final challenge.

Puzzle 1: Letter Shift

BEGINNER / CAESAR CIPHER

Every letter has been shifted 3 places forward.

To decode, move each letter BACK 3 places in the alphabet.

ORRN XQGHU WKH EHQFK

(The hidden message is a clue!)

Use this alphabet helper:

CODE: D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z A B C

PLAIN: A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

My decoded message:

EXPLORER TIP

Example: D becomes A, E becomes B, and F becomes C.

Puzzle 2: Number Code

BEGINNER / A1Z26 CIPHER

Each number represents a letter: A=1, B=2 ... Z=26.

Decode the number groups to reveal the message.

6 - 9 - 14 - 4 20 - 8 - 5
12 - 15 - 7 - 2 - 15 - 15 - 11

Alphabet key:

A 1	B 2	C 3	D 4	E 5	F 6	G 7	H 8	I 9	J 10	K 11	L 12	M 13
N 14	O 15	P 16	Q 17	R 18	S 19	T 20	U 21	V 22	W 23	X 24	Y 25	Z 26

My decoded message:

EXPLORER TIP

Write the letter for each number. A dash separates letters;
a larger gap separates words.

Puzzle 3: Mirror Alphabet

INTERMEDIATE / ATBASH CIPHER

The alphabet is reversed: A becomes Z, B becomes Y.

Use the two rows below to translate the message.

GIZRO OVZW HGLMV

Find the hidden instruction.

The mirror alphabet:

NORMAL: A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

MIRROR: Z Y X W V U T S R Q P O N M L K J I H G F E D C B A

My decoded message:

EXPLORER TIP

Each letter has one partner. The first and last letters swap, then the second and second-to-last, and so on.

Puzzle 4: Symbol Secrets

INTERMEDIATE / SYMBOL SUBSTITUTION

Each shape stands for a letter. Use the key to crack the code!

[]	()	/ \	##	++	**
= L	= O	= K	= I	= N	= T
==	@@	%%	&&	!!	~~
= R	= E	= S	= D	= A	= H

[] () / \ ## ++ ** == @@ @@ %%

(Each symbol group is one letter.)

My decoded message:

EXPLORER TIP

Read the shapes from left to right. The large spaces separate words; small spaces separate letters.

Puzzle 5: Map Grid Code

CHALLENGE / POLYBIUS SQUARE

Each pair of digits is a location in the grid.

First digit = row; second digit = column. I and J share a square.

A 11	B 12	C 13	D 14	E 15
F 21	G 22	H 23	I 24	K 25
L 31	M 32	N 33	O 34	P 35
Q 41	R 42	S 43	T 44	U 45
V 51	W 52	X 53	Y 54	Z 55

13 11 13 23 15 13 34 14 15

Decode this two-word instruction.

Decoded message:

Answer Key

FOR PARENTS, TEACHERS & EVENT HOSTS

1. Caesar shift

LOOK UNDER THE BENCH

ORRN XQGHU WKH EHQFK shifted back three letters.

2. A1Z26

FIND THE LOGBOOK

Each number is the letter position in the alphabet.

3. Mirror alphabet

TRAIL LEAD STONE

Atbash swaps each letter with its opposite.

4. Symbol substitution

LOOK IN TREES

Translate the symbols using the key on page 5.

5. Map grid

CACHE CODE

Read the first digit as row and second as column.

HOST NOTE

These are pretend clues - do not move or hide real caches without permission.