

Name _____ Date _____

Do You have the Write Stuff?

Use this sheet to keep track of your “finds” in the great pencil treasure hunt.

1. When were pencils first used? **Mid-1500s**
2. How many words can one pencil write? **45,000**
3. Name a famous person who used a pencil. **Steinbeck, Thoreau, Edison, Hemingway, DaVinci**
4. How do bread crumbs and pencils fit together? **Breadcrumbs were used as erasers until 1770, when the first rubber eraser was made.**
5. What is a ferrule? **The metal that attaches the eraser to the pencil.**



6. How long a line can one pencil draw? **35 miles long**
7. What year were erasers attached to pencils? **1858**
8. How much lead is in a pencil now? **None**
9. Why are pencils generally colored yellow? **During the 1800s, the best graphite in the world came from China. American pencil makers wanted a special way to tell people that their pencils contained Chinese graphite. In China, the color yellow is associated with royalty and respect. American pencil manufacturers began painting their pencils bright yellow to communicate this “regal” feeling and association with China.**
10. What makes pencils write? **Combination of graphite and clay.**