



# CAESAR CIPHER LESSON

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Additional materials may be found at [www.ncyte.net](http://www.ncyte.net)



# CAESAR CIPHER

## IN CLASS ENCRYPTION ACTIVITY

This activity should be done in groups of four students. Each student in the group writes down three brief (less than 25 letters) lyrics from three favorite songs (Section A). Students write in plaintext in the spaces provided, using all capital letters and no punctuation (except for blank spaces). Using a Caesar Cipher shift of their own choosing, students then encrypt their three lyrics into three separate lines of ciphertext (Section B). Next, students carefully fold over the top of the sheet so that the contents of section A are no longer visible. Once done, each student should hand their activity sheet to the student on their right.

The student receiving the sheet will attempt to identify one lyric. Students are given five minutes to decrypt one encrypted lyric on the sheet and guess the song it came from (Section C) then be given two additional minutes to write one or two sentences about their decryption success, partial success, or failure (Section D). The student will then pass the sheet to the next student to the right. The activity continues until all three students in the group have attempted to decrypt three lyrics.

Students learn to encrypt text using Caesar Ciphers, and decrypt text that has been coded using Caesar Ciphers.



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## D. EXPLAIN THE PROCESS

In a sentence or two explain a success or failure.

1.

2.

3.

