Should you keep artifacts? **NO!**

Artifacts can be found in many places in San Diego, in canyons, mountains and even the city. If you keep an artifact you find, an important piece of San Diego’s history will be lost forever. Archaeologists need to know exactly where an artifacts was found to understand everything about it. They can’t use an artifact that came out of your pocket.

If you find an artifact, look at it, enjoy it, but **don’t move or disturb** it. Leave it exactly where you found it. You can take a picture of it too, and then you’ll have it to look at later. If you find paintings or etchings on rocks, **never touch them** or add paint to them. **Never disturb Native American places or historic spots.** Tell a park ranger or another official about the artifact you saw. They may want to protect it further.

What does the secret code say: