Making a Linear B tablet

Why not try making your own Linear B tablet? You will need:

- Modelling clay (e.g. air-drying clay, or something like plasticine)
- Something with a rounded, sharp point to write with (e.g. a bamboo skewer like the ones used for barbecues, or a cocktail stick)
- Our ‘Write your name in Linear B’ sheet
- Paper or newspaper to put down on the surface where you are working, and an available water supply (remember this activity can get messy!)
- An adult to help you make your tablet, and help you tidy up afterwards

Here is an example of a simple Linear B tablet recording a man called Enexeus, at a place called Aka, with 200 male sheep:

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e-ne-ke-se-u, a-ka SHEEP(male) 100+100
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To make your own tablet, follow these steps:

- Take some modelling clay, roll out a piece and make a shape like the tablet above (it should be small enough to fit in your hand)
- Make sure the surface of the tablet is flat enough to write on
- Use your writing implement to draw the signs you want on your tablet
- **Tip: You can plan what you will write on the tablet on paper first if it helps.**
- If you used air-drying clay, you can leave it somewhere safe for about a day and it will harden; plasticine won’t harden but the bonus is that you can re-use it!

Here are some more signs that you might like to include in your tablet:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sign</th>
<th>Sign</th>
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<th>Sign</th>
<th>Sign</th>
<th>Sign</th>
<th>Sign</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SHEEP</td>
<td>COW</td>
<td>PIG</td>
<td>GOAT</td>
<td>HORSE</td>
<td>DEER</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAN/BOY</td>
<td>WOMAN/GIRL</td>
<td>GOLD</td>
<td>CLOTH</td>
<td>CHEESE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWORD</td>
<td>SPEAR</td>
<td>CHARIOT</td>
<td>JUG</td>
<td>WHEAT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NUMBERS: 1 =</td>
<td>10 =</td>
<td>100 =</td>
<td>235 =</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"Write with CREWS"