



# HIP TIPS

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## THE BAT CODE

Teaching students to read and write in code is not only motivating and engaging, it also promotes spelling, decoding and general word knowledge.

Sam and Simon, the “Bat Gang,” communicate with each other using a simple code:

Flip the vowels:     **A**    **E**    **I**    **O**    **U**    **Y**  
With:                **Y**    **U**    **O**    **I**    **E**    **A**

So...the word BATS would be BYTS and CODE would be CIDU.

Sam and Simon make it a little harder by writing each word backwards. Now BATS is STYB and CODE is UDIC.

That’s the “Bat Code” used in all six of the books in the BATS series. You might want to teach your students this code before reading, to ensure that they will be able to decipher Sam and Simon’s messages to each other.

After reading, have your students write coded messages to each other. They might also be interested in researching famous codes and ciphers and their roles in history.

**APPYH GNODYUR!**