

# Cool Jobs: The Science of Secrets

By Susan Gaidos / October 31, 2012

This is one in a series on careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics made possible by support from the Northrop Grumman Foundation. -

Can you uncover the secret message?

GIFNAFIOYRUMNANTDISOHN RMOATY FBTE AEPNFCEOTDAEOD.

(Stumped? Delete the first letter and then go on and delete every other letter after that.)

It's not just spies and secret agents who work with codes — many scientists do too. All it requires is an interest in finding repeating patterns, embedded information or surprising solutions to problems.

Scientists have decoded information about the world for centuries. Today, researchers still make and break codes, often in unexpected ways. Here, we profile three actively exploring the world of codes, each in a unique way.

### Message in the microbes

Tufts University chemist David Walt is always hunting ways to apply chemistry to solve biological problems. He has developed clever sensors that can probe what turns particular genes on or off. And he has developed tools that can identify individual proteins inside cells, structures way too small to see with ordinary microscopes.

- See more at: <http://www.sciencenewsforkids.org/2012/10/cool-jobs-the-science-of-secre...> [1]

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