1125-VG-545Andrew J Simoson* (ajsimoso@king.edu), 1349 King College Road, Bristol, TN 37620.
Extrapolating Plimpton 322—the most famous ancient mathematical artefact.

Labeled one through fifteen, the clay tablet Plimpton 322 contains the short and long (diagonal) integer-valued sides of Pythagorean triples. We give a proof-without-words for the ancient algorithm of reciprocal pairs of regular sexagesimal numbers used to generate the terms on the tablet and answer two natural questions. Why is the first triple (119, 120, 249)? And—if the table were extended—what would the sixteenth triple have been? This material is suitable for inclusion in a history of mathematics class, a discrete mathematics course, or for a mathematics appreciation course. (Received September 06, 2016)