

Learning objectives

- Forensics is the application of science to the law
- There are two main types of crime: crime against a person and crime against a property
- There are many different types of evidence
- Evidence can link an individual to a crime
- It is important to conduct a fair test and collect reliable evidence

Workshop content - students will:

- Use chromatography to compare ink evidence
- Examine footprint evidence and make their own plaster cast
- Analyse hair and fibres using microscopes
- Produce their own fingerprint sheets and collect latent prints
- Solve a crime using their new skills

National Curriculum links

Sc1 Scientific enquiry

2) Investigative skills

- b. decide whether to use evidence from first-hand experience or secondary sources
- d. consider key factors that need to be taken into account when collecting evidence, and how evidence may be collected in contexts in which the variables cannot readily be controlled
- k. use observations, measurements and other data to draw conclusions
- l. decide to what extent these conclusions support a prediction or enable further predictions to be made
- m. use their scientific knowledge and understanding to explain and interpret observations, measurements or other data, and conclusions
- o. consider whether the evidence is sufficient to support any conclusions or interpretations made
- p. suggest improvements to the methods used, where appropriate

Sc3 Materials and their properties

1) Classifying materials

- h. how to separate mixtures into their constituents using distillation, chromatography and other appropriate methods

Picture gallery



Take and investigate fingerprints



Students use their new skills to solve a crime