



Forensics

The Stars Challenge at Monmouth University 2010

This has been a delightful semester. From our first session, my student sleuths were curious and eager to explore the work of a forensic scientist. Their enthusiasm filled each session with energy.

It was evident that students were willing and able to accept the challenges presented to them. Students worked diligently as each case introduced new forensic investigative skills. In the Case of Thomas Ziegler, we learned how to interpret evidence and reconstruct the crime. As we moved on to the Case of the Missing Microchip, we practiced interviewing potential suspects and organizing data. In our last case, we used a flame test to identify unknown substances and fibers found in Lyndon's locker. We found ourselves analyzing fingerprints one week and calculating the angle of trajectory in blood splatter in another. Each week's challenges improved the students' ability to become a forensic investigator.

Hopefully, the students developed skills that will inspire them to pursue the field of forensic science.

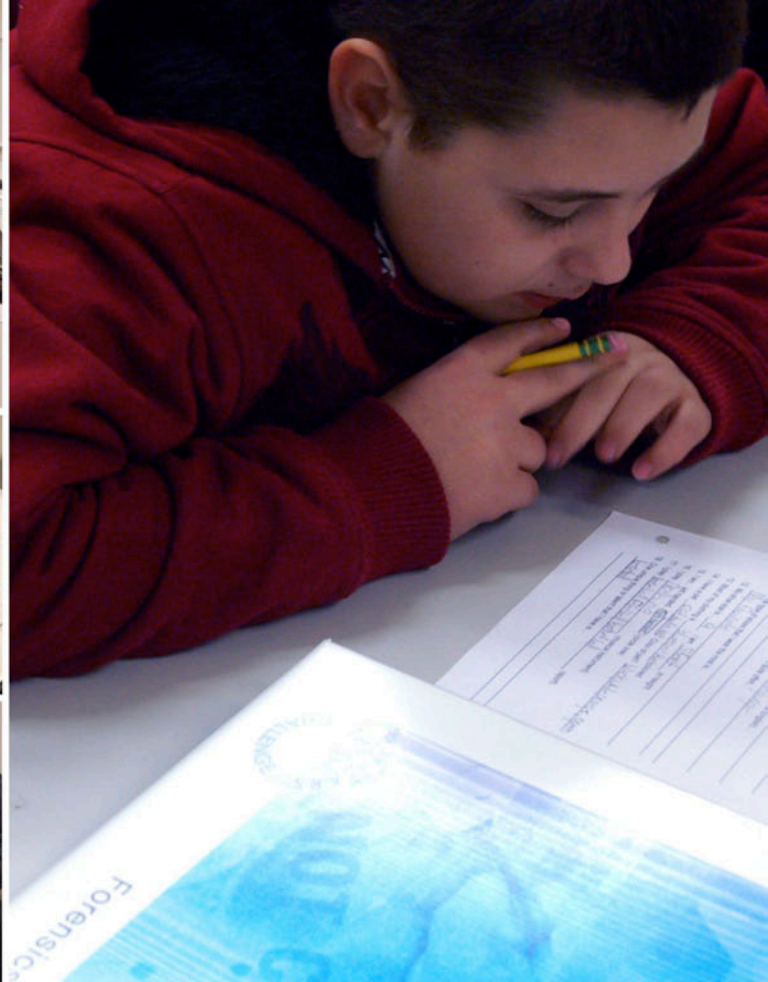
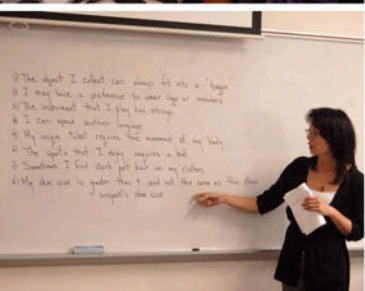
Ms. Hui



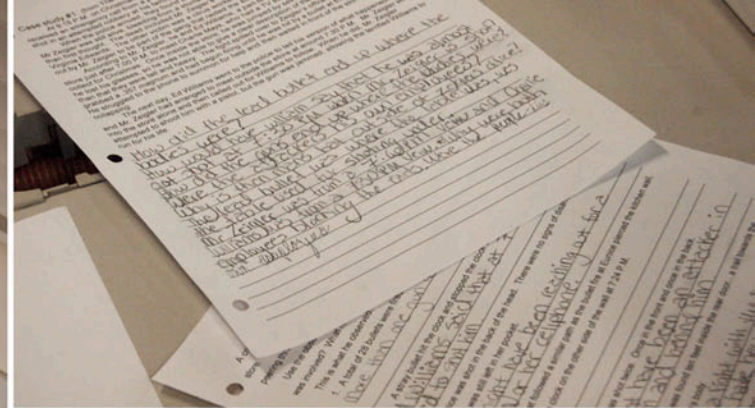
Crime Scene Investigators



How observant are you?



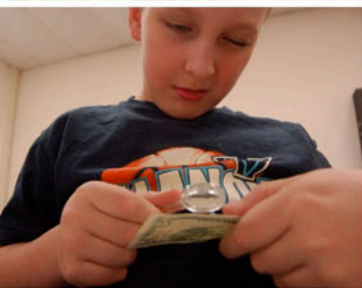
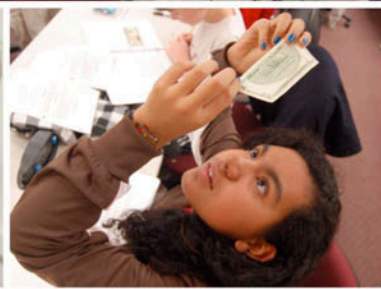
Learn how to narrow down the suspects using the process of elimination?



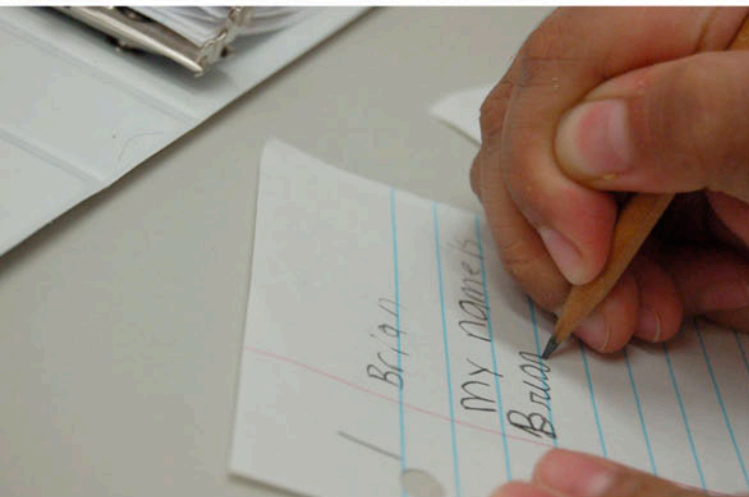
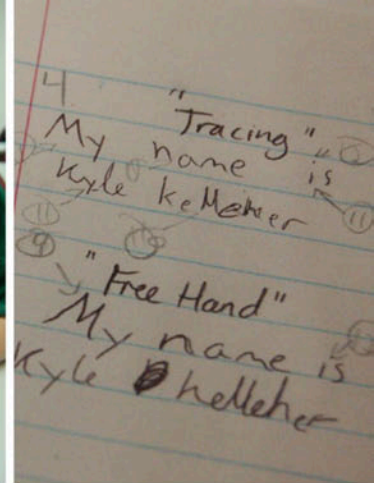
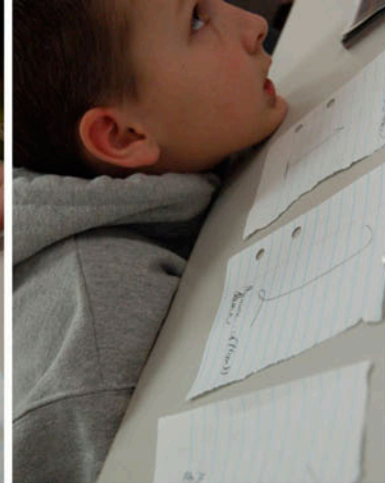
What happened in Mr. Ziegler's store?



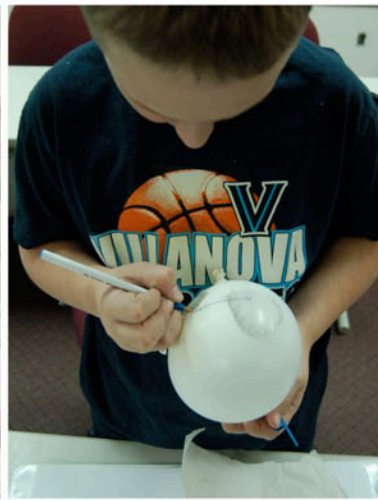
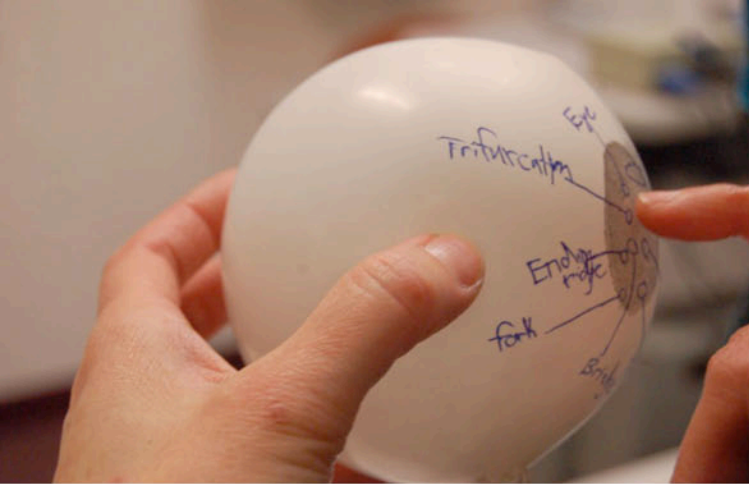
After taking on character roles, we worked to solve the case of the Missing Computer Chip.



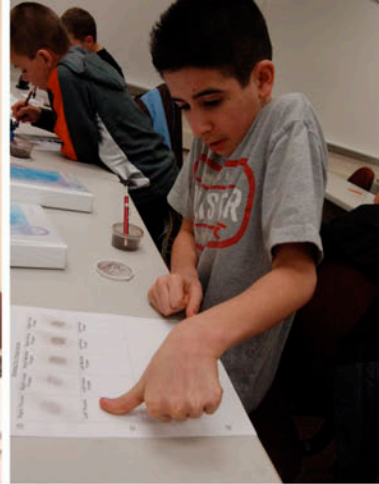
We examined our own currency for security features.



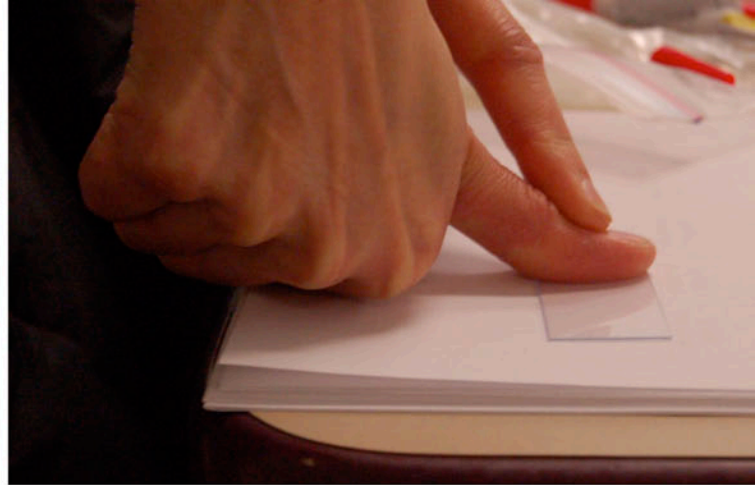
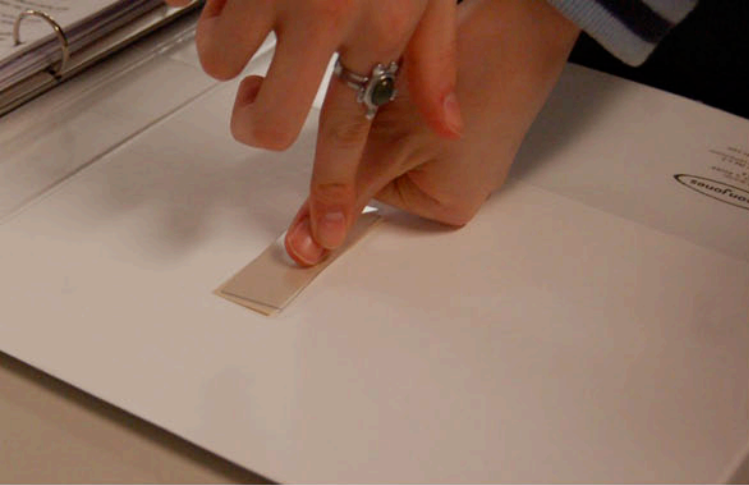
Examining the characteristics in our handwriting.



We practiced identifying our own fingerprint ridges.



Looking closely at our thumb prints.



Using the Henry Classification System

Classification System allows for logical categorization of ten-print fingerprints into primary groupings based on fingerprint pattern types. Each fingerprint is classified according to the order in which it is located in the hand.

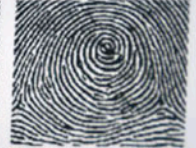
Three fingerprint patterns are:



Arch



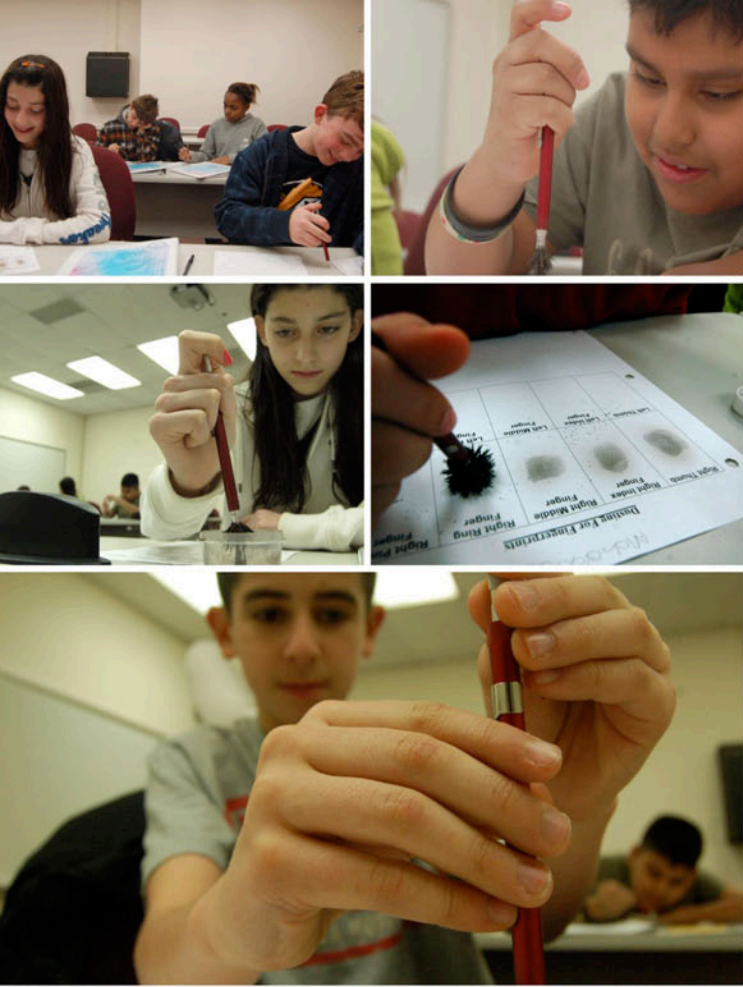
Loop



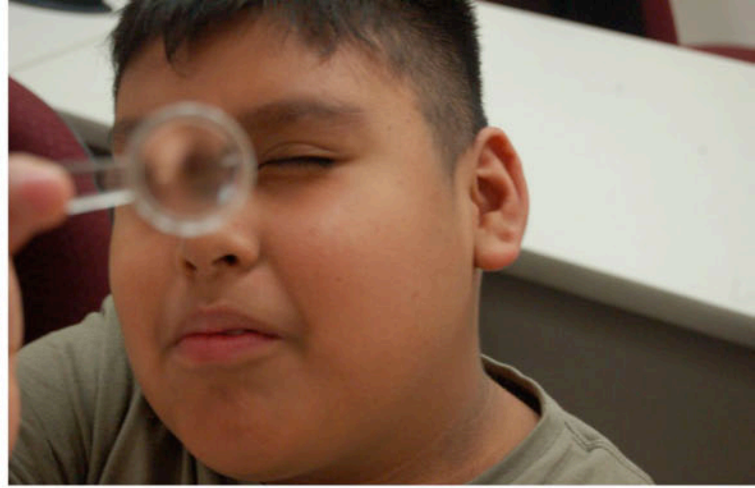
Whorl

In the Henry Classification System, finger numbers and finger values

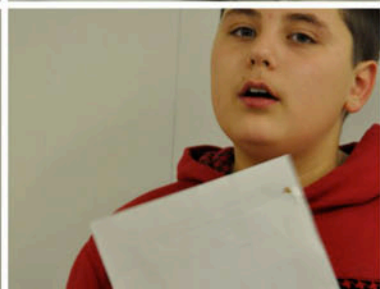
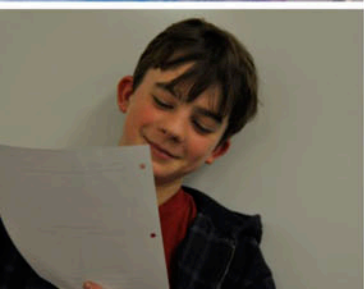
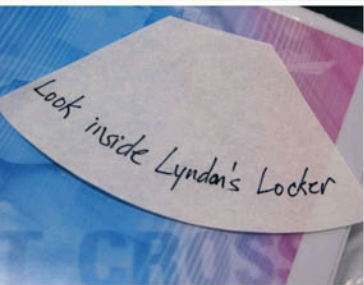
We used super glue fuming to reveal latent prints.



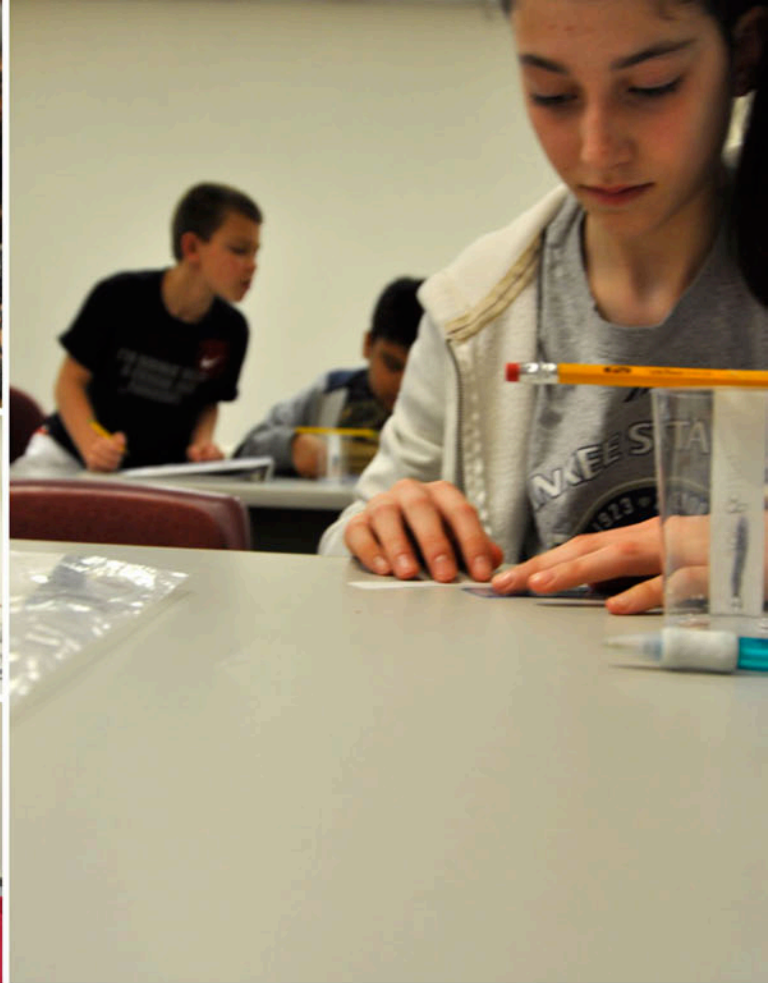
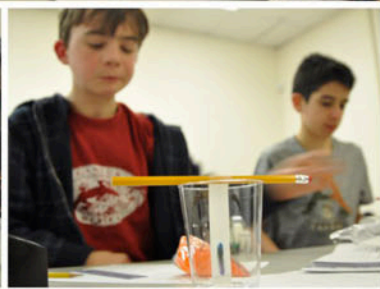
We also practiced using magnetic powder to uncover our own fingerprints.



So many more details can be detected as we look closer.



We presented our first thoughts about the possible suspects and motives in the Lyndon's Locker case.

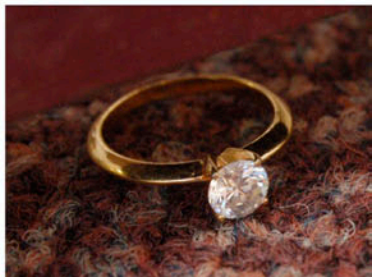
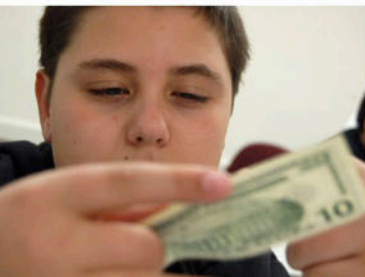
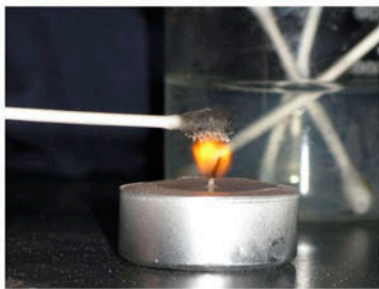
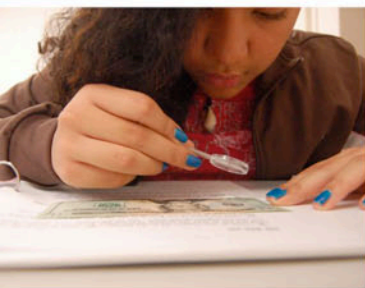


We used chromatography to help match the ink in pens collected from Sari, Brandon, Tom, Dana and Joe.





We analyzed the angle of trajectory in blood splatter.





Forensics Thursdays Winter 2010

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Made on a Mac