



Forensics

The Stars Challenge at Monmouth University 2009



Crime Scene Investigators

Forensics

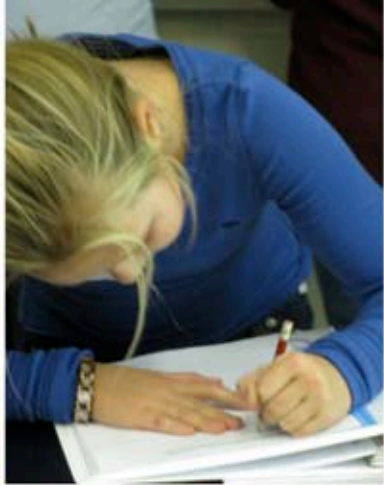
This has been a delightful semester. Although the introductions in our first class demonstrated a somewhat reserved group of students, their curiosity and eagerness to explore the work of a forensic scientist began to fill each session with energy.

Each case presented new forensic investigative skill. It was evident that students were willing and able to accept the challenges presented to them. 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 and organizing data.

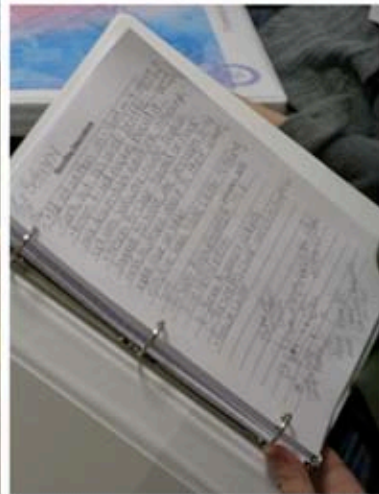
In our last case, we used a flame test to identify an unknown substance and fibers found in Lyndon's locker. Analyzing fingerprints one week and calculating the angle of trajectory in blood splatter in another.

According to Locard's Exchange Principle, "Every contact leaves a trace." To the crime scene investigator, this means physical evidence exchanged between a suspect and a victim during any physical contact must be carefully collected and analyzed. To me, this means... experiences exchanged between all class members must be carefully collected and remembered.

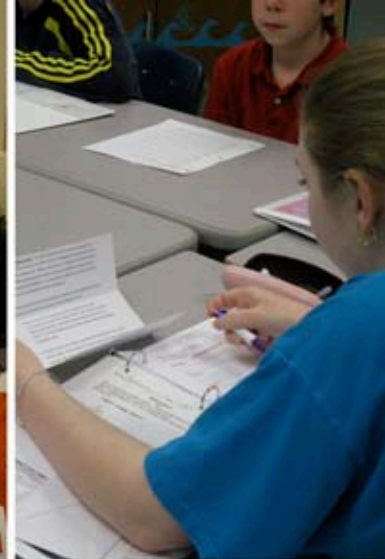
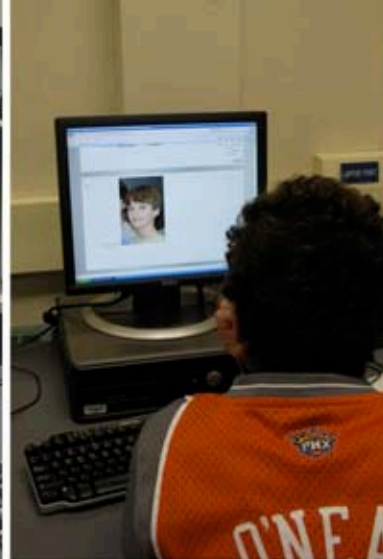
Ms. Hui



A successful investigator must be able to observe and record information.



We need to look beyond the obvious.

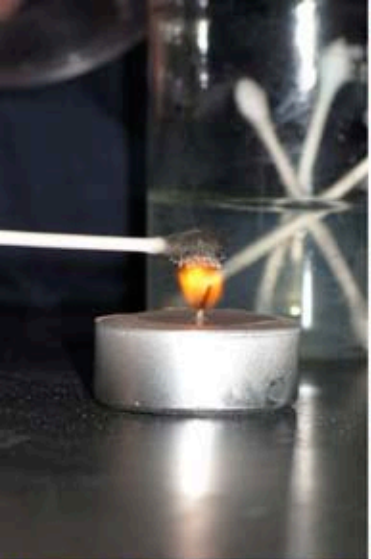


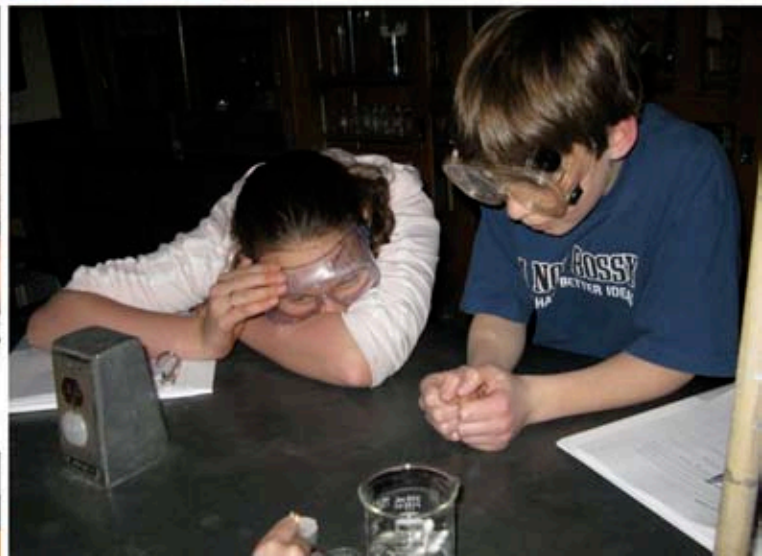
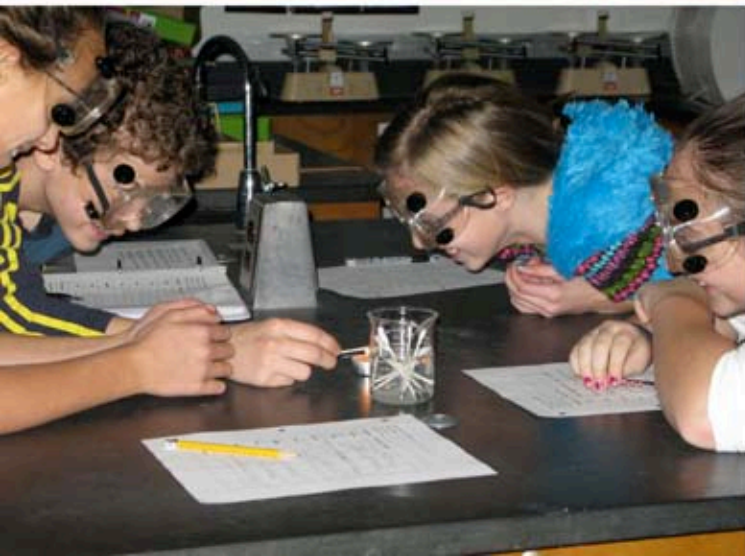
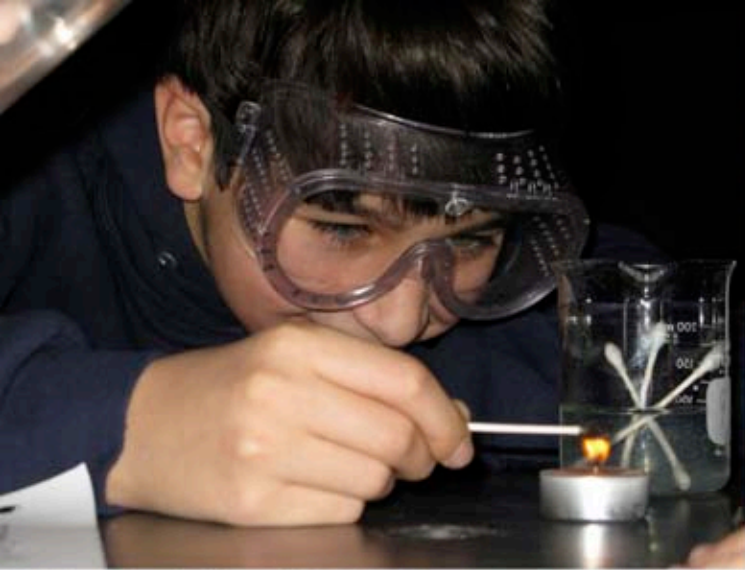


Taking on character roles, we work to solve the case of the Missing Computer Chip.



We used a flame test to identify the white power found in Lyndon's locker.



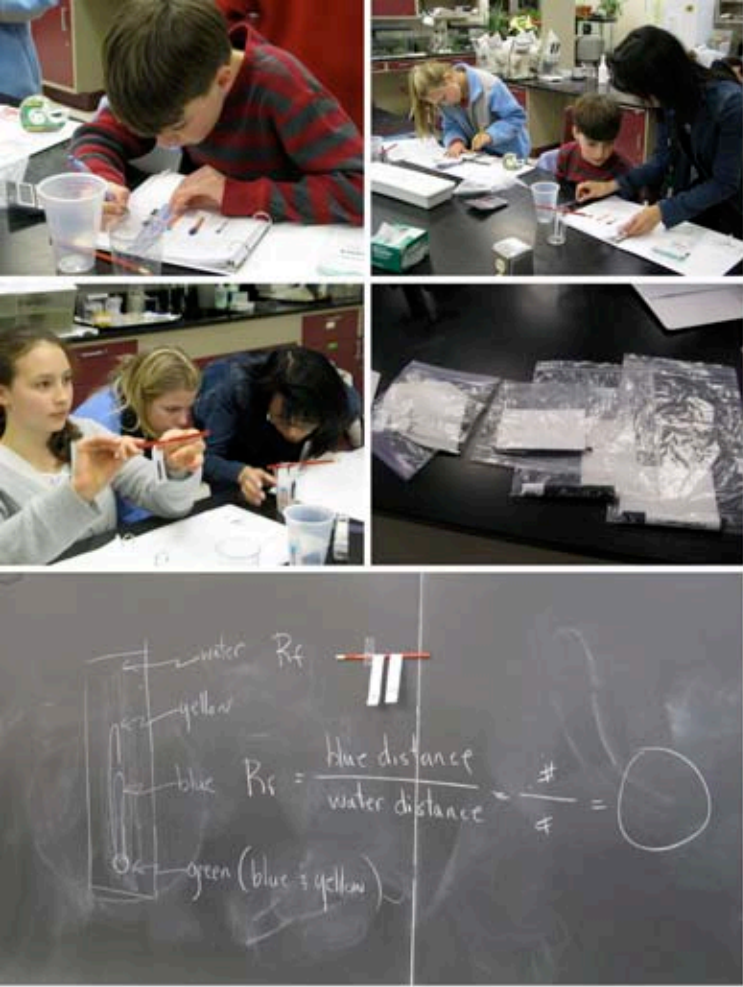




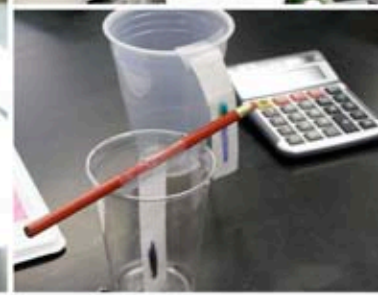
Fibers are analyzed for their reaction to a flame...



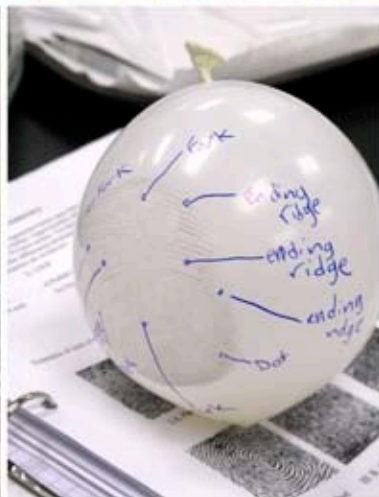
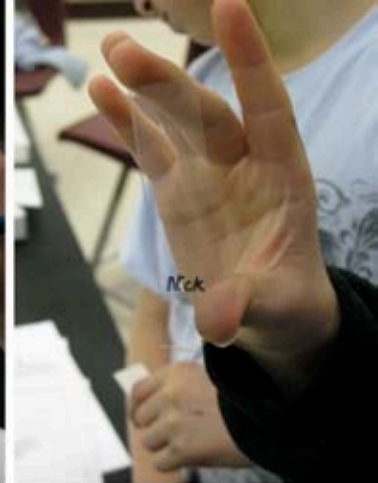
...and observed carefully under a microscope for similar characteristics.



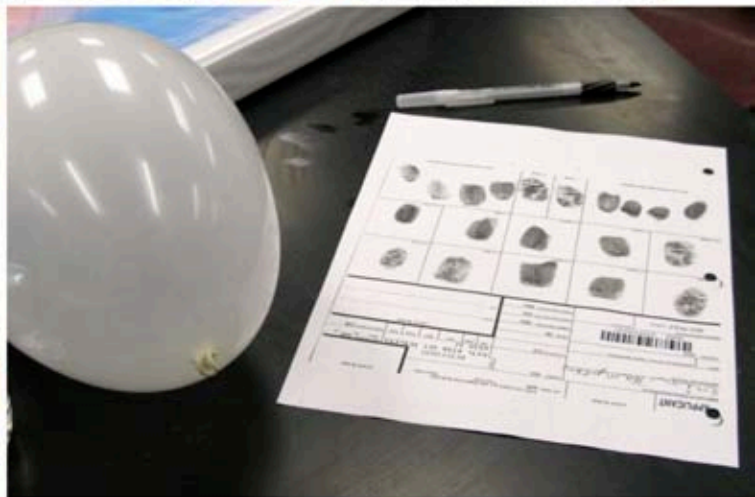
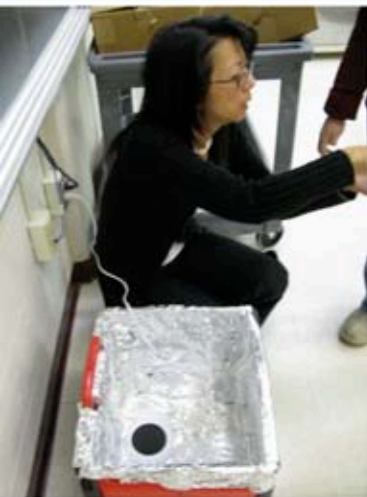
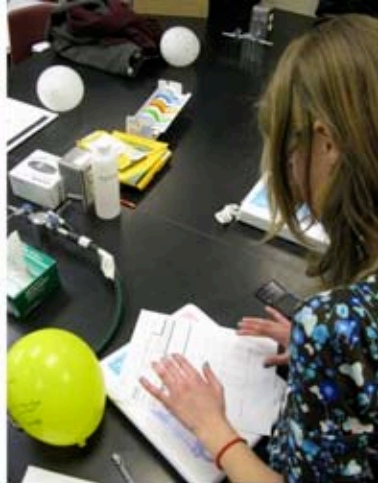
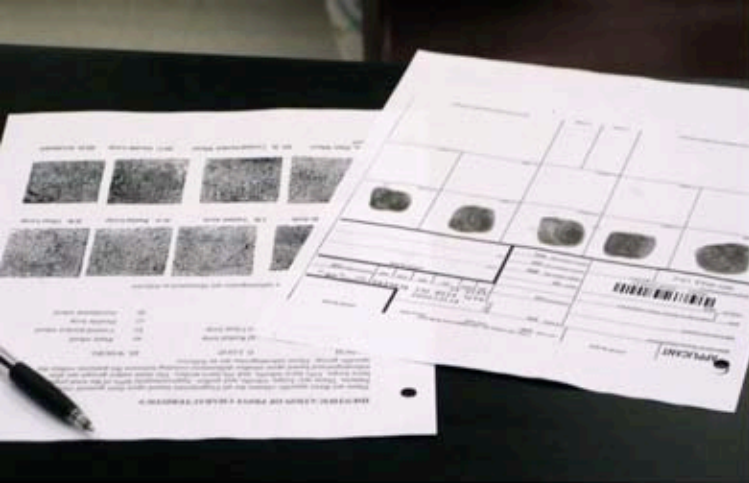
We used chromatography to help match the ink in pens collected from Sari, Brandon, Tom, Dana and Joe.



We calculated Retention Factors (Rf) in the ink and made comparisons with the writing sample found in the principal's office.



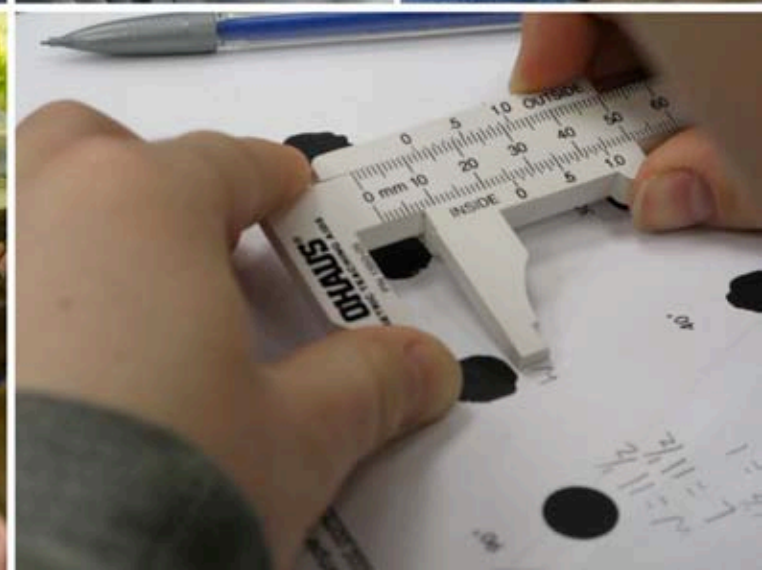
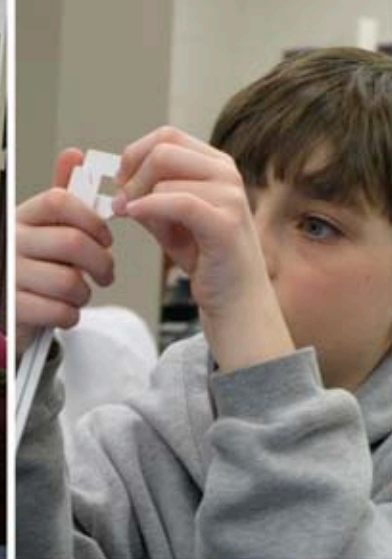
We practiced identifying our own fingerprint ridges.

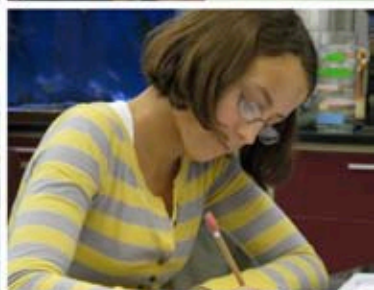


Super glue fuming and magnetic powder can be used to reveal latent prints.



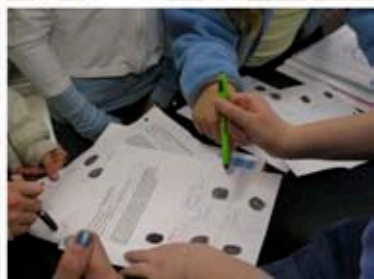
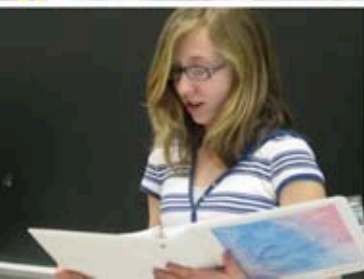
The angle of trajectory in blood splatter can be calculated using a caliper and some math skills.





Use Evidence

- Eunice died first.
- Perry Edwards's to Eunice, then
- Virginia was 3
- Mr. Zeigler was shot to the front door.
- Charlie Klays was shot Mr. Zeigler can





Made on a Mac