



STEM Career Adventures: Forensic Scientist

Llama Mystery

Introduction to Career:

Forensic Scientist: Scientists who collect evidence from crime scenes and analyze it to help police solve crimes. Forensic scientists use chemicals and other tools to find evidence and write reports to record their findings.

Adventure Description: A very strange event has happened! A llama has appeared at the explorers' school/ camp/afterschool program. Who is responsible for the llama delivery? It's up to the explorers to think like forensic scientists and figure out which explorer or instructor is responsible for this mystery.

Instructor Preparation

**There is a 5 minute set up required.*

- Choose one explorer (or instructor) that will create a finger print card and writing sample ahead of time. They will be known as "The Culprit." These materials will not have a name on them, and the person will remain anonymous.
- Have the Culprit complete **Llama Mystery Culprit**. Use thumbprint step from Activity 1 (page 2 of this lesson).
- Tell the Culprit that they must keep this a secret! Explain to the Culprit that he/she is chosen to be the suspect for a mystery - a random llama has shown up! The other explorers will have to figure out who brought the llama.
- Explain to the Culprit that he/she will make another fingerprint card and writing sample along with the group so that nobody figures out who is the Culprit.



Part 1: Creating Fingerprint Cards (10 minutes)

- Explain to explorers that they will be solving a mystery. A random llama has shown up and is now living in their school/camp/afterschool program. Who is responsible for bringing this llama?
- Explain that one explorer or instructor in the group is responsible for bringing this llama. It is up to forensic scientists to figure out who it is.

Contact Allison, Director of Customer Service, with any questions or feedback at 314-272-2560 or allison@rozzylearningcompany.com

Send photos of your explorers and their projects to allison@rozzylearningcompany.com to be featured on Rozzy's website, social media pages, and blog!



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- Forensic scientists look at people's fingerprints and writing to figure out mysteries. Each fingerprint is unique, so forensic scientists look at fingerprints to figure out who is responsible for a mystery (show **Discovery Picture: Fingerprints**).
- Next, explain to explorers that fingerprints were found on the llama and a small note was found on the floor.
- Show the fingerprint card and writing sample that the Culprit created and explain that these were found at the scene.
- Then, explain that all explorers and instructors will create fingerprint cards that will be compared to the Culprit's fingerprint.
- To create fingerprint cards, provide explorers with **Rozzy Fingerprint Cards**.
 - If you have stamp pads: Have explorers press their thumb in the ink and carefully stamp it onto their cards.
 - If you do not have stamp pads: Have explorers take a lead pencil and make a pencil smudge on a piece of paper. Then place thumb in the pencil smudge so the thumb is coated in pencil lead. Gently press a piece of tape over the thumb and then remove the tape. Place the tape on the fingerprint card to transfer the fingerprint.



Part 2: Creating Writing Samples (5 minutes)

- Explain to explorers that a note was left with the llama. Explain that forensic scientists look at people's hand writing to figure out mysteries. Most people have very different handwriting from others!
- Show explorers writing sample on **Llama Mystery Culprit**.
- Then, have each explorer will write a few words out on **Discovery Page: Llama Mystery Writing Sample**.



Part 3: Solving the Mystery (10 minutes)

- Set out the Culprit's fingerprints and writing sample for everyone to see or make copies for each explorer.

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- Then, have explorers put their fingerprints and writing samples underneath or next to the Culprit's samples. Have explorers walk around and see which samples match with the Culprit's.
 - Encourage explorers to think like forensic scientists by paying close attention to detail and looking at any similarities or differences in the fingerprints and writing samples.
- Have explorers guess who is responsible for bringing the llama. Reveal the person once explorers have guessed!

Materials List

Provided online:

- Llama Mystery Culprit
- Rozzy Fingerprint Cards
- Discovery Picture: Fingerprints
- Discovery Page: Llama Mystery Writing Sample

Not provided:

- Stamp pad (*optional*)
- Lead pencils if stamp pad not available
- Tape

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