

# Teacher Tool 100: Criminal Investigations

## HEC-TV Live! Presents

### The Science Behind Investigating a Crime

#### Program-Related Activities Teacher Instructions and Student Questions

#### Activity 1: Watching the Crime

Have students view Forensics 1: The Crime Occurs on our Educate.Today website. Have them view the video only once, in real time. Do not pause or stop the video. The goal is to have students take on the role of an eyewitness to the crime. Once they have watched the video, have students answer the questions below. Be sure to complete this activity before proceeding on to the other two pre-program activities so their responses to those activities do not affect their responses to this activity.

1. At the beginning of the video a female administrator is walking toward the building. How many other people walk past her in this section of the video? What were they wearing?
2. Based on viewing the crime as it happens, what pieces of evidence did you notice that you think might be helpful to the police as they investigate the crime?
3. Which piece of evidence you list in #3 do you think would be most helpful? Why?
4. If you were questioned by the police on what you saw, how would you describe the individual who took the computer?

#### Activity 2: Discovery of the Crime

Have students view Forensics 2: The Crime is Discovered on the Educate.Today website. Once they have watched the video, have students answer the question below.

1. What do you notice about the weather in this video? Is there any way you believe the weather in last night's crime scene and the weather in this morning's discovery scene could in any way impact the police's ability to investigate the crime? Why or why not?

#### Activity 3: Witness Interview and Police Report

For this activity, students will view Forensics 3: Witness Interview on the Educate.Today website and also read Student Tool 20: Police Narrative. Question 1 should be asked after viewing the video clip. Question 2 should be asked after students read the narrative.

1. After viewing the video, what would you say are the strengths of the witness statement as a potential help to the investigators and what areas are weak that would be less helpful to the investigators?
2. After reading the "Narrative" section of the police report, what information included in it and/or potential evidence mentioned in it do you think would be most helpful to the police detectives who will investigate the crime from this point on? Please list that information and why you think it will be the most helpful.

Another interesting point of conversation related to these resources would be for students to compare the witness interview video to the police narrative. The police officers joining us for the program discuss the process of writing a police report and also how witnesses often remember additional details later, after the initial interview.

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