



✂ WONDERVILLE ACTIVITY

SEARCHING FOR EVIDENCE

Crime scene investigators use something called Locard's Principle when investigating a crime scene. Basically this principle states that when the perpetrator of a crime comes into contact with a crime scene, he or she will leave evidence behind.

What You Need

- wide, clear tape
- plain white paper (clean)
- magnifying glass
- 2 items of old clothing (socks, mittens, t-shirts, shorts are good examples)

What To Do

1. Select two areas – either in your house and yard. Make sure it's an area where there is debris on the floor or ground.
2. Drop one item of clothing in each area. Record the area and the item of clothing dropped in that area in the chart below.
3. Place the two items in separate plastic bags to avoid contamination.
4. Starting with the first item, shake it over a large sheet of white paper to remove any loose debris.
5. Press strips of the tape (about 20 cm long) against the fabric to collect the remaining debris. (You can use each strip a few times.)
6. Place the strips of tape, sticky side down, on a piece of white paper.
7. Investigate the debris you have collected using a magnifying glass.
8. Can you identify the different types of debris? What does this tell you about the location? Is there evidence of people or animals? What other conclusions can you make about the debris you collected? Record your observations in the right column.



AREA	ITEM OF CLOTHING	EVIDENCE FOUND & OBSERVATIONS



Did You Know?

Edmond Locard was the director of the very first crime laboratory.
"Wherever he steps, whatever he touches, whatever he leaves, even unconsciously, will serve as a silent witness against him."

– Professor Edmond Locard

