

Crime Lab

The Science Museum Crime Lab challenges students to solve a robbery attempt

Crime Lab enables you to run exciting and innovative Science and Engineering Club sessions for students aged 11-14 years without spending extra time researching and buying materials. The box contains appealing, largely reusable, materials for three different activities – enough to cater for the average-sized club – including:



- Notes and extension ideas for using the boxes
- A short video to set the scene
- Powerpoint files to introduce each activity
- A logbook that you can print off for your students to record their findings
- Posters to print off for publicising your club sessions
- Reorder information.

“It’s so nice. It just arrives and you can use it straight off. You don’t have to faff around with stuff.” KS3 Teacher

The Science Museum have worked in consultation with teachers and students to guarantee that these resources have unusual and imaginative content, offer great value for money and are easy to use by club leaders with all levels of experience. What’s more they are accredited for the Bronze CREST Award and endorsed by Young Engineers.

Crime Lab activities

There’s been a terrible crime in the Science Museum and the three activities in the box will allow the students to work out the identity of the perpetrator.

Fuming fingerprints



In this activity, your students learn how to develop latent fingerprints with vapour-deposited superglue fumes – just like the technique used by real crime-scene investigators. They will use the fingerprints to help find the identity of the thief in the Science Museum from our crime story! It is essential to use a fuming-cupboard in this activity, but the fuming chambers and additional materials safely are provided in the box.

Prototype testing at Dunraven School, London

Swipe card



Your students will code and decode cards from this box for two reasons. First, they will learn that the magnetic strip on cards such as credit and travel cards always has a hidden code. Second, they will discover this hidden information may help them identify the thief in our crime story.

Prototype testing at Tom Hood Community Science College, London

Casting



Students will investigate to what extent bite marks can be used to identify a suspect. Because your teeth are as unique as your fingerprints, police officers can also use dental records to identify somebody. This activity provides the final piece of evidence to solve the Science Museum's crime story

Prototype testing at Elstree School, Reading



How to order

Crime Labs cost £130 each (including delivery) to buy from the Science Museum. For further information go to

http://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/educators/science_boxes.aspx

“It’s money well spent. You can use it for other years, again and again.” Teacher

“Good value. Plenty of experiments and loads of equipment. The kids really enjoyed them.” Teacher

Please note: these boxes have been developed for use in a school environment and some activities require standard lab safety equipment. They are not suitable for use outside school settings.

All schools in Wales who request a STEM Ambassador can borrow the Crime Lab equipment from their local STEM Ambassador Hub – See-Science – free of charge. Contact enquiries@see-science.co.uk.