

Make Your Own Fingerprint Kit



Put your sleuthing skills to the test with this DIY detective fingerprint kit!

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- two empty spice jars
- cornflour
- cocoa powder
- dry paintbrush or make-up brush
- sticky tape
- coloured paper
- washable ink pad

STEP 1

Put some cornflour in one jar and cocoa powder in another.

STEP 2

Find a hard surface you think might have a fingerprint hidden on it, such as a door handle or a mug.



STEP 3

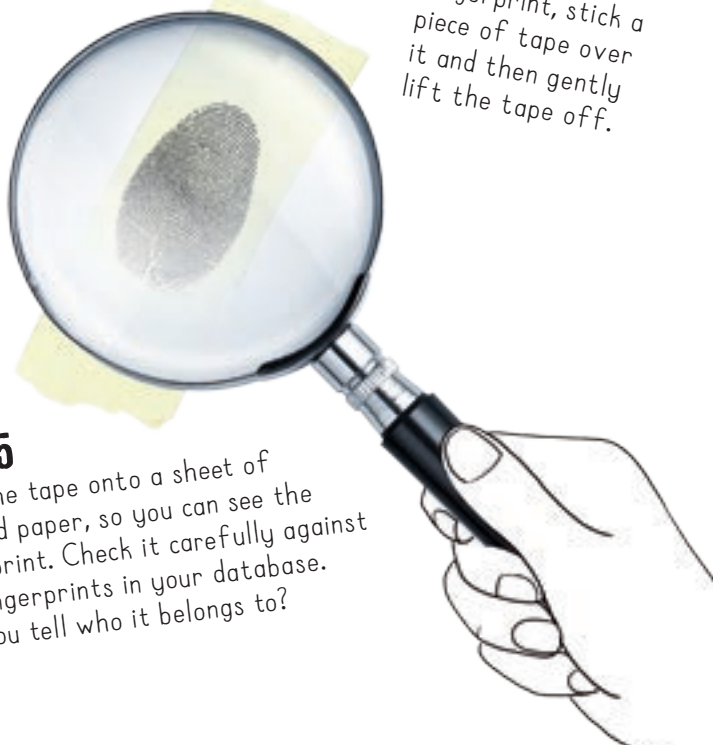
If the surface is a light colour, sprinkle some cocoa powder and gently dust it with your brush. On a dark surface, use cornflour.

STEP 4

If you find a fingerprint, stick a piece of tape over it and then gently lift the tape off.

Is it a match?

Once you've collected your fingerprints, you'll need to match them to any 'suspects'. Ask your friends and family to press their fingertips onto a washable ink pad and then leave their fingerprints on a sheet of paper. Label the paper with each person's name. You now have a fingerprint database to match any you find with your kit!



ASK AN ADULT

Always check with a grown-up before you start sprinkling powder or cornflour.

STEP 5

Stick the tape onto a sheet of coloured paper, so you can see the fingerprint. Check it carefully against any fingerprints in your database. Can you tell who it belongs to?