



Literacy & Language
Age 9-12

Crime scene investigations

- Talk for writing



Overview

This literacy activity is a great opportunity to provide a hook for some writing. The outdoor and practical nature of the lesson will allow pupils to brainstorm ideas together before writing.

Resources

- A teddy
- Hazard tape
- Chalk
- Loose parts
- Large paper/whiteboard and pens

Activity

1. Prior to the lesson, prepare a crime scene outdoors e.g. teddy being stuck up a tree, a flattened house and a missing owner etc.
2. Brief the pupils that they are going to be detectives encountering an incident.
3. Allow time to look at the crime scene and evidence around them.
4. Challenge pupils to invent a chain of events which led to the crime and share their ideas with their partner.
5. Share ideas as a whole group and brainstorm ideas on a large sheet of paper/whiteboard as if you are in an incident room.

Suggested outcomes for learning and play

We understand you will tailor this activity to the learning needs of your pupils. Here are some of the learning outcomes and extension ideas that other practitioners have used this lesson idea to reach.

- To create the setting, characters and story line of a fictional text
- To structure a story with a beginning, middle and end.

Subject area	Topic	Ideas for further exploration
Literacy and language	Design	Write up a story of what happened
	Questions	Devise a list of questions for a suspect or witness
Art	Using natural materials	Use loose parts to create a story board of what has happened, or make character profiles
		Create a wanted poster for the main suspect
Drama	Hot seating	Role play being different suspects/ witnesses who are questioned about the crime
Computing	Video media	Pretend to be a journalist reporting from the crime scene and record a news report
		Create an animation of the series of events



Learning through Landscapes

If you would like to develop your outdoor learning knowledge and skills, take a look at our range of training courses: l.tl.org.uk/outdoor-learning-training