Unit 01: Crime Scene Examination

Content Area: **Science**
Course(s): **Forensics**
Time Period: **Semester 1**
Length: **4 weeks**
Status: **Published**

Standards

	Structure and Function
	Stability and Change
	Asking Questions and Defining Problems
	Engaging in Argument from Evidence
	Developing and Using Models
	Cause and Effect
ETS1.A	Delimiting Engineering Problems
HS-ETS1-2	Design a solution to a complex real-world problem by breaking it down into smaller, more manageable problems that can be solved through engineering.
ETS1.C	Optimizing the Design Solution

Enduring Understandings

1. The field of forensic science is continually changing with the advancement of science and technology.
2. Forensic science utilizes concepts from all scientific disciplines and the nature of science to uphold the law.
3. Modern media sensationalizes the field of forensic science which influences the perceptions of jurors within trials.
4. Specific procedures must be followed to ensure that evidence is not contaminated.
5. The key to determining the provenance of an item is individualization.

Essential Questions

1. How have scientific advancements contributed to the evolution of forensic science?
2. How are the sciences applied to legal and criminal investigations?
3. How is the depiction of forensic science in popular culture misleading?
4. How have societal views and values affected the role of scientific evidence in the judicial system?

5. What problems arise from improper handling of the crime scene investigation?
6. Why shouldn't you convict someone on evidence based on class characteristics alone?

Knowledge and Skills

Knowledge:

1. Students will know the major contributors to the development of forensic science and the significance of their contributions to the field as a whole.
2. Students will know Locard's exchange principle and be able to explain its application to forensics.
3. Students will know that modern media sensationalizes the field of forensic science which influences public perception of the field.
4. Students will know the structure of the US judicial system and the role of forensic scientists within the court system.
5. Students will know the Supreme Court decisions that specify admissibility rules for evidence.
6. Students will know the difference between testimonial and physical evidence.
7. Students will know the structure and organization of modern crime labs.
8. Students will know the proper procedures for analyzing a crime scene including interviewing, examining, documenting, and processing the crime scene.
9. Students will know how to collect and package different types of evidence.
10. Students will know the difference between class and individual characteristics and their usefulness in crime solving.

Skills :

1. Explain why observation skills are important to forensic investigators.
2. Use deductive reasoning to synthesize a situation where only partial information is known.
3. Create an argument for and against the use of eyewitness testimony in crime scene investigation.
4. Develop an understanding of the nature and impact of technology, engineering, technological design, computational thinking and the designed word as they relate to the individual, global society and the environment
5. Cite evidence of the development of scientific technology in the advancement of forensic science
6. Draw conclusions as to how forensic science relates to the application of law in our criminal justice

system

7. Accurately document a mock crime scene utilizing proper procedures.
8. Distinguish between different types of evidence and determine which area of the modern crime lab would evaluate said evidence.
9. Model correct procedures for collecting and packaging evidence at a crime scene.
10. Utilize class and individual evidence to analyze a criminal case.

Assessments

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1wR7bQF-8AQoRrt0g4C3hKja0yjwDjC9_BiAmONWbTcI/edit

Modifications

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ODqaPP69YkcFiyG72fIT8XsUIe3K1VSG7nxuc4CpCec/edit