

The Cookie Jar Mystery

A Study In Forensic Science

Academic Enrichment for Grades 5–8

Build Science Learning With Fun!

The Cookie Jar Mystery is immersion science at its best! Students use real laboratory techniques and materials, create theories about the “crime,” and test their hypotheses much like bench scientists. Along the way, students acquire new vocabulary, explore careers in forensics, and become acquainted with scientific procedures and processes they will also encounter in their classrooms. At its core, *The Cookie Jar Mystery* is designed to spark student’s interest in science.

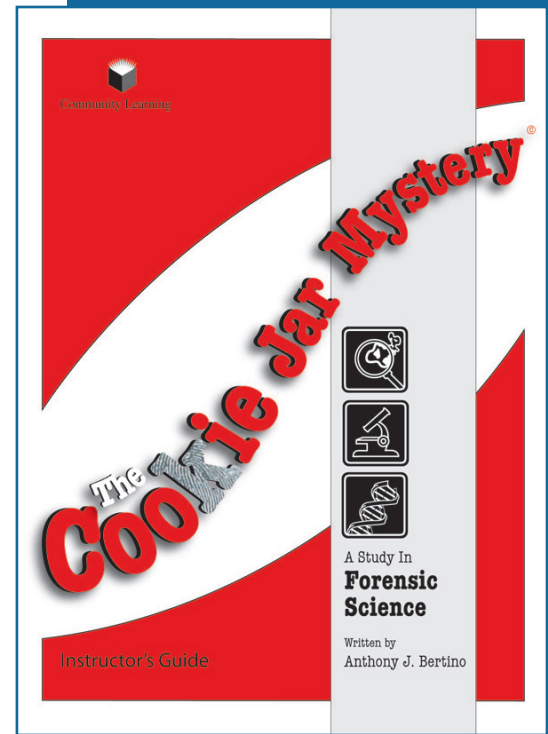
National, state, and local standards highlight the need for children’s enrichment activities to improve science literacy. As students engage in the investigative activities of *The Cookie Jar Mystery*, they experience science in an authentic hands-on environment that illuminates the use of evidence, models, tools, and techniques in science inquiry. Students analyze hair and pollen samples, investigate fiber samples, study blood types, and learn about DNA profiling. They test their powers of observation and use lie detection techniques as they examine written statements by each suspect.

In the culminating activity, students analyze their findings, and—using deductive reasoning—point their fingers at the guilty party. Applying real laboratory techniques, students form teams to analyze trace evidence, unknown substances, handwriting, fingerprints, and even shoeprints left at the crime scene.

These highly engaging activities help students develop strong research and problem-solving skills in an atmosphere of fun and high interest!

Anyone Can Teach *The Cookie Jar Mystery*

Created for the non-specialist instructor, lessons in *The Cookie Jar Mystery* Course Kit are easy to plan, understand, and deliver. Each lesson, designed to run approximately one hour, is thoroughly outlined for the instructor in our easy-to-follow Instructor’s Guide. The Guide provides step-by-step directions for working with students and includes background information, safety instructions, materials lists, demonstration details, and a list of exciting Web sites and links instructors can use to extend and enhance their lessons. Anyone motivated to engage students in this exciting program can teach *The Cookie Jar Mystery*.



The Cookie Jar Mystery encourages students to:

- Explore careers in forensics
- Utilize authentic laboratory techniques
- Practice deductive reasoning
- Work collaboratively
- Examine a variety of evidence
- Engage in “hands-on” crime-solving fun!



Our Course Kits Include Everything You Need!



Instructors find plenty of help in The Cookie Jar Mystery Course Kit, including a straightforward Instructor's Guide, fun and enriching Student Activity Books, and handy Course Kit Materials, all conveniently packaged in well-marked lesson packs—and clearly itemized for quick pre-lesson set-up. There are enough materials in every Course Kit to supply a class of twenty students!

Course Kit Materials include pocket microscopes, fingerprint "ten cards," evidence collection "crime scene" envelopes, shoeprint papers, simulated blood samples, and virtually every material required to solve the mystery. Packed in four easy-to-manage course boxes, these convenient carryalls are lightweight and easy to store. Enough materials are provided for students to work cooperatively in teams of two or four—just like real forensic scientists!

Course Kit Includes:

- 2 Instructor's Guides – Covering 15 Units
- 20 Student Activity Books
- Training Tips
- Student Recruitment Materials
- Supplies for 20 Students
- Product Number: CJM600, \$1695
- Re-supply Kit: CJM600RS, \$299
- Quantity discounts available.

For more information, please call

877-347-0461

or visit our Web site at

www.CommLearning.com

How It Works

This Course Kit leads instructors through a well-designed enrichment experience for their classes. The Instructor's Guide outlines set-up procedures, background information, daily materials lists, and a pacing plan for each activity. All supplies are provided in the Course Kit, so your instructors only need bring their energy and enthusiasm. Daily plans have already been created and assembled for immediate use!

Why It Works

Thematic integration is what makes Community Learning courses work—youngsters get extended engagement over several days or weeks that builds their confidence, their character, and their competency in a variety of subject areas. With an emphasis on fun, Community Learning courses work to ignite curiosity and stimulate authentic learning in contexts ranging from criminal investigation to art. Instructors provide guidance in every lesson and are supported by step-by-step plans and easy-to-manage materials.

Where It Works

No specialist knowledge is required to get these fun activities off the ground! Not only are Community Learning courses designed to enrich after-school programs, they're also ideal for museum groups, scout troops, home schooling, summer and vacation camps, church youth groups, and anywhere else young people are gathered!

About Community Learning

Community Learning provides academically rich programming for schools and community centers. Programs are provided through thematic Course Kits designed to support and assist program directors and staff. Our topics include new approaches to Art, Music, and Science, all designed to immerse children in fun learning, to gain practical hands-on experience, and to introduce exciting career possibilities!

