

The Missing Money Mystery

An Introduction to Forensic Science

Academic Enrichment for Grades 3–5

Experiments in Learning!

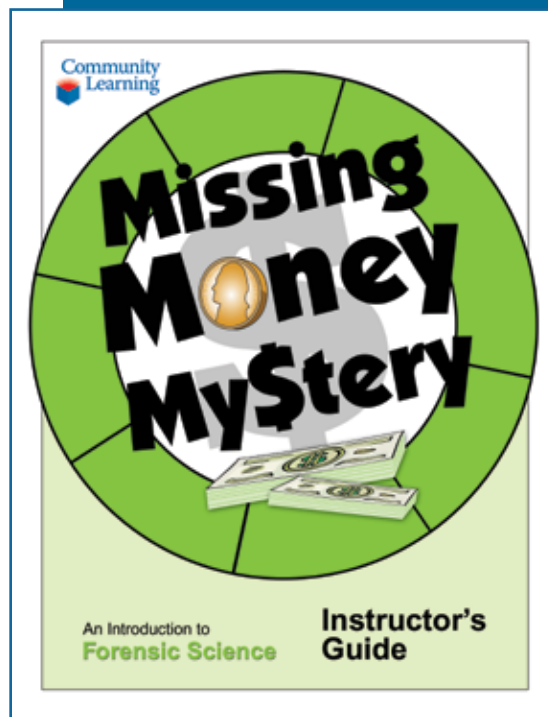
The Missing Money Mystery is hands-on science and academic enrichment at its best! Using real laboratory techniques and materials, students create theories about the “crime,” of a classroom burglary, and much as real detectives (and real scientists!) use their powers of critical thinking to track down the thief. Along the way, they practice critical thinking, acquire new vocabulary, explore careers in forensics, and become acquainted with scientific procedures and processes they will encounter in their classrooms. At its core, *The Missing Money Mystery* is designed to spark students’ interest in science.

National, state, and local standards point to the need for children’s enrichment activities to improve science literacy. The high engagement in *The Missing Money Mystery* drives an enduring enthusiasm for learning about science. As teachers and learners follow the fun embedded in *The Missing Money Mystery*, they experience science in an authentic, hands-on environment that highlights the use of evidence, models, tools, and techniques in scientific inquiry.

Students analyze soil samples, investigate fiber samples, study tire tread patterns, and learn about DNA profiling. Applying real laboratory techniques, students form teams to analyze unique clues such as tire tracks, lip prints, and even a mysterious white powder left at the crime scene. They test their powers of observation and data collection. In the culminating activity, students analyze their findings and—using deductive reasoning—point their fingers at the guilty party. The “gumshoe” activities of *The Missing Money Mystery* can inspire students to develop strong research and problem-solving skills.

Anyone Can Teach *The Missing Money Mystery*

Created for the non-specialist instructor, lessons in *The Missing Money 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 Instructor’s Guide not only provides step-by-step directions for working with students (including background information, safety instructions, materials lists, and demonstration details), but also a “script” that knits together the intriguing story of Mr. Pfister and his team of classroom detectives. Each lesson can be extended and enhanced with Web sites and links that further explore selected topics. Anyone motivated to engage students in this exciting program can teach *The Missing Money Mystery*.



The Missing Money Mystery encourages students to:

- Practice problem solving skills
- Utilize authentic scientific laboratory techniques
- Demonstrate scientific inquiry
- Sharpen literacy skills
- Work collaboratively in teams
- Examine a variety of scientific evidence
- Engage in “hands-on” crime-solving fun!



Our Course Kits Include Everything You Need!



Instructors find plenty of help in *The Missing Money Mystery* Course Kit, including the 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 virtually everything you need for each lesson, including such specialized and hard-to-find materials as pocket microscopes, foreign coins, measuring tapes, sand, modeling clay, small tires, soil samples, crayons, feathers, evidence collection "crime scene" envelopes, cups, beakers, funnels, plaster of paris, and so much more. Packed in four easy-to-manage course boxes, these convenient carryalls are lightweight and compact—storage is a snap!

Course Kit materials include:
2 Instructor's Guides - Covering 10 Units
20 Student Activity Books
Training Tips
Student Recruitment Materials
Supplies for 20 Students
Product Number: MMM800, \$1295
Re-Supply Kit: MMM800RS, \$269
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!

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.

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!

