FOREWORD TO FORENSICS CLASSROOM UNIT

SUGGESTED GRADE LEVELS:

9-12

LESSONS INCLUDE:

Glass Chip Density
Ink Chromatography
Fibers and Forensics
What Could It Be?
Forensics and Dirt
A Crime Has Been Committed

UNIT OBJECTIVES

- ★ Students use proper lab techniques to analyze soil and fiber samples, perform chromatography, calculate retention factors, calculate density of glass samples and analyze unknown powders.
- ★ Students construct a table and organize the data they have collected.
- ★ Students draw conclusions based on the analysis of their data and evidence collected.

This engaging unit incorporates science, critical thinking, organizational and communication skills. Students actively apply science to their lives and also realize that science is all around them as they dive into the exciting world of forensics.

> "Forensics" is shorthand for forensic science– the practical application of science to the law.

This unit may be taught as a whole or as individual lessons. Each lesson stands on its own and takes one to two class periods to teach. If your class performs the final lesson, make sure they have completed all 5 preparatory lessons to give them the skills and prior knowledge they will need to successfully solve the "big crime".

Each lesson includes background information, materials lists, Illinois State Learning Goals, step by step procedures, suggested assessments, extension lessons and helpful tips.

All lessons were adapted from Stacey Endebrock, successlink.org