

Forensic Detective: How I Cracked the World's Toughest Cases

Robert W. Mann
614.1 Mann

The author of this book is the deputy director of the federal Central Identification Laboratory in Hawaii, and his mastery of forensic science is evident throughout the text. Many of the twenty chapters focus on forensic anthropology, and the author consistently uses actual cases he has worked on to back up his facts.

Police Lab: How Forensic Science Tracks Down and Convicts Criminals

David Owen
YA 363.25 Owen

Full of fascinating technical details, this book is a mix of forensic textbook and historical crime expose. The reader gets to see how crimes are investigated and clues deciphered, and many color photographs illustrate the text. Several world-famous crime cases are explored and explained. A table of contents, glossary and index enhance the information.

Crime Scene: The Ultimate Guide to Forensic Science

Rickard Platt
363.25 Plat

A step-by-step guide through a criminal investigation, this book features many interesting color photographs and easy-to-understand explanations of criminal investigation. Arranged like a textbook, with topical headings and blocks of information, this book allows for easy browsing.

Forensics

Richard Platt
YA 363.25 Plat

This large-format, glossy book looks at many different aspects of forensic science and is organized in three chapters: "Signs of the Crime," "Who is it?" and "Crime Lab." Each page features bright, close-up photographs and many facts. Great for browsing, this book provides a great overview of forensic science.

Stiff: The Curious Lives of Human Cadavers

Mary Roach
611 Roac

Want to know what really happens to a body once it's "donated to science"? A look at what scientific communities of the past have done with cadavers adds depth to the examination of today's practices. The author combines factual discussion of dissection, crash-test dummies, organ transplants, and body part recycling is paired with enough witty humor to keep readers from feeling too disgusted. This book is ideal for readers interested in medicine or forensic science.

Threads of Evidence: Using Forensic Science to Solve Crimes

Herma Silverstein
YA 363.25 Silv

Focused mostly on new technologies employed by law enforcement, this text uses relatively graphic case studies to put the techniques discussed in context. The author, who has written many nonfiction books for teens, offers a balanced, non-sensationalized look at forensics and supports her writing with facts throughout.

Manhunt: the Twelve-Day Chase for Lincoln's Killer

James L. Swanson
973.7092 Swan

An in-depth look at the twelve days after Lincoln's assassination, this book really lets you see what was going on with John Wilkes Booth as he tried to outrun the Union Cavalry and federal agents assigned to find him. Detailed sketches help bring the text to life. An interesting look at forensic science of the past.

Forensics the Easy Way

Harold H. Trimm
363.25 Trim

This technical guide is designed for criminology students and law enforcement officers. Broken into four sections, the chapters outline forensic science today and look forward to new developments in the future. Part of the Easy Way series, this book will appeal to a variety of readers and should be accessible to most teens.

Forensic Detectives: Archaeology at Work

Nancy Walzog
DVD 363.25 Fore

What can leftovers from the past tell us about today? More than you might think! This DVD explains how information is collected from remnants of cultures, civilizations, and disasters and how this data can be used in a historical and social context. China, Peru, Jerusalem, and the Earth's magnetic Poles are all featured.

Forensic Detectives: Chemistry at Work

Nancy Walzog
DVD 363.25 Fore

This DVD is all about the relationship between chemistry and crime investigation. Different sections examine clues found through chemistry, how chemicals interact to create different visual effects, a detailed look at the periodic table, and carbon copies, both natural and synthetic.

Forensic Detectives: Mysteries and Solutions

Nancy Walzog
DVD 363.25 Fore

Watching this DVD is like working right next to a forensic investigator. Physical evidence is examined and used to gather information and clues to solve a mystery. Topics explored include archeological investigation, physical evidence, DNA, and the human body.

Murder

Diane Yancey
YA 363.259 Yanc

From the "Crime Scene Investigations" series, this book looks at topics like blood splatter, trace evidence and FBI files, putting each one in context with an actual crime. Readable charts and graphs, combined with detailed photographs, add interest. Sections of notes and further reading ideas guide readers looking for more information.

*Researched and compiled by E. Rockefeller
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What Does a Dead Guy Have to Say:

Books About Forensic Science



Teasing Secrets from the Dead: My Investigations at America's Most Infamous Crime Scenes

Emily A. Craig
363.2562 Crai

An exciting and interesting memoir, written by a forensic anthropologist, gives readers an inside look at the field of forensics. Amazing details about identifying bodies by just a tiny fragment of bone or tissue show the author's mastery of her craft. Some very graphic details may distract select readers, but the bulk of the text is accessible and appropriate for most teens.

Serial Killers

Allison Lassieur
YA 364.1523 Lass

Part of the "History Makers" series, this title offers readers brief biographies of seven notorious serial killers. Each featured individual is examined in some detail, including their childhood, criminal activity, tracking and arrest, trial and sentence. A good introduction to the history of criminal activity, this book includes some graphic details that may not appeal to select readers.