

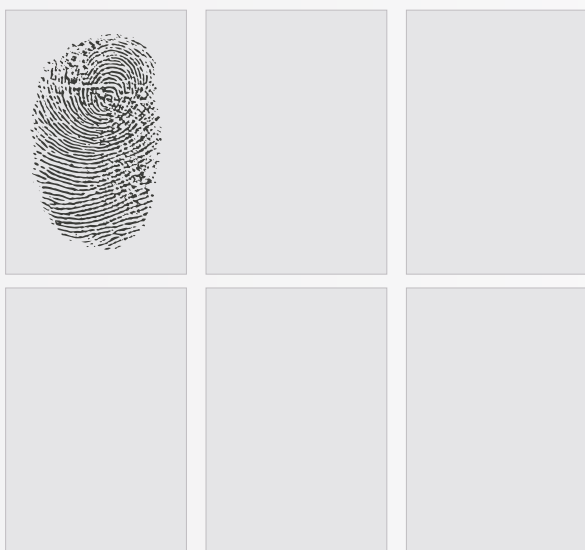
Who stole the sweets?



Did you know that each person's fingerprint is unique? Even identical twins have different fingerprints, even though they are otherwise genetically identical. Take a good look at your fingertips: Do you recognise the fine lines, arcs and circles? They are called papillary lines and are unique to you. We always leave an imprint of this unique pattern as soon as we touch something. Especially on smooth surfaces like glass, our fingerprints become visible. They are created by sweat or grease on the skin. If you look at your finger under a microscope, you can even see the tiny sweat pores. And because fingerprints can only ever be assigned to one person, they are often used as evidence by the police.

Lukas is very sad because someone has stolen the sweets from his tin. He would like to know who did it. He has an idea: he can check the fingerprints on the tin and thus convict the culprit!

Help Lukas and find the candy thief!



Let's help Lukas & Tom find the culprit! But first we will practice collecting fingerprints and examining them.

1. To do this, take your tin or jar and sprinkle some powder over the surface. Baking powder, cocoa or even baby powder work very well for this.
2. Carefully spread the powder with a fine, thick brush. And look: the fingerprint becomes visible!
3. Next, take a piece of clear tape and carefully stick it over the fingerprint without creasing it.
4. When you remove the tape, the fingerprint will stick to it and you can stick it to a cardboard box. Did you use a light-coloured powder? Then use a dark cardboard box. If you used a dark powder, it is better to use a light cardboard.
5. Now have your family and friends give you a fingerprint one by one. You can do this as before with the powder and the tape. Or you can take an ink pad and press your finger with the ink onto a piece of paper.
6. Now you can compare the fingerprint of the glass or the can with those of your family and friends. You're guaranteed to catch the culprit!



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