

Cadette Special Agent Badge

Crime Brief

Make The Scene

Select an area for the crime scene. It can be a classroom, bathroom, hallway, living room, outside, anywhere! It can even be something small like a locker, trunk or bookbag!

Use crime scene tape to mark off the area if you have it. This helps the scene feel real.

If you want the crime to be foul play, make a body outline with tape. If you want it to be a stolen item, see if you can remove something that used to be there that will leave a clue (e.g., take down a picture that's been on the wall forever, drag a bike through the dirt and hide it somewhere, move a car from a parking spot and leave it around the corner, etc.)

Have Fun!

This brief is not for girls. It's only to help you set up the scene. Let your imagination take charge!

Plant the Evidence

The girls don't need to solve the crime! They just need to gather evidence. Make footprints, drop a hairpin, a few Legos, leave a half-eaten bag of potato chips somewhere, a receipt, a dog toy. Consider including blood or ink splatter so girls can use their blood spatter analysis!

Use a Story

If you're having trouble coming up with your own story, use this one:

A small, local construction firm did work for a client and the client didn't pay. To get back at the client, the head of the construction company either committed foul play or stole an item belonging to the client.

Be an Eyewitness

Girls may want to try their hand at drawing a suspect. You can either make one up to match your story, or use this description. Add anything you want. You can even change your story (remember that eyewitness accounts aren't always reliable!). Be creative!

"I saw a person walking toward the crime scene talking on the phone last night. I was about 100 feet away so I couldn't hear what they were saying. The person was tall. They were wearing a backwards baseball cap. But they were also wearing a suit that didn't fit them well at all. It was too big. They were wearing a kind of black superhero mask that only covers the eyes and top part of the face. I couldn't tell how long their hair was. But I did notice they had a really small nose. And their lips were thin. I guess they were a few inches shorter than me. Something about them seemed familiar. I have a feeling I've seen them around town before."