

Fingerprint Detectives

Everyone's fingerprints are unique. Even identical twins don't have the same fingerprints. They are integral to human identity. Fingerprints are formed before birth with a skin layer 'scrunched' between an inner and outer layer of skin.

Fingerprints can wear and fade if exposed to burning or prolonged physical work (such as brick laying), however in most cases will regenerate because they are ingrained in deeper layers of skin. Police use fingerprints to identify criminals by comparing their fingerprints to fingerprints found at the scene of a crime. This is one form of 'Forensic Science'. Other forms include DNA testing. We even use our fingerprints to unlock phones and tablets!

There are 3 types of fingerprint, Loop, Arch and Whirl. Which type do you have?



loop



whorl



arch

Loops are the most common type of fingerprint, making up 65 – 70 percent of fingerprints. 30 – 35 percent are whirl and only 5 percent arch.

Some animals also have fingerprints, including Koalas, Gorillas and Chimpanzees. Koala's fingerprints are nearly identical to human fingerprints!

Take each of your fingerprints in this inventive way:

Using an ordinary pencil firmly shade a section of scrap paper, hold your finger to it this will transfer the pencil shading to your finger and print in the tables below. Look closely to see what type of fingerprint you have? Does everyone in your house have the same?

Right Hand				
Thumb	Index Finger	Middle Finger	Ring Finger	Little Finger
Left Hand				
Thumb	Index Finger	Middle Finger	Ring Finger	Little Finger



We would love to see your finished sheet!
Email a copy to info@koosakids.co.uk.

