

### Materials

- Pencil
- Paper
- Clear tape
- Magnifying glass

**1** Trace out your hands on a piece of paper.

**2** Draw a square about 1" by 1" and color it in with pencil using pressure to get as much graphite on the paper as you can.

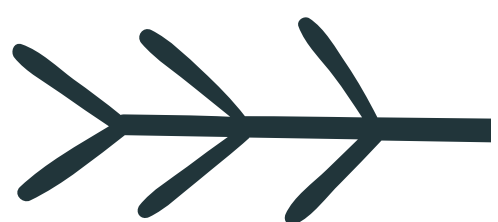
**3** Rub one finger on the graphite to cover your fingerprint.

**4** Use a piece of tape to cover your fingerprint and lift the graphite off of your finger.

**5** Tape your fingerprint to the traced-out hand. Repeat for every finger.



Using a magnifying glass, what do you notice about your fingerprint? Are they the same? Are they different? What about someone else's fingerprint?



### The Science Behind It



LOOPS WHORLS ARCHES

Everyone has their own unique fingerprints. There are three basic patterns consisting of arches, loops and whorls. These were later divided into eight patterns: plain arch, tented arch, ulnar loop, radial loop, double loop, plain whorl, central pocket loop whorl, and accidental whorl.