Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_\_

**Fingerprint Basics**

**Site #1: PBS Whodunit?** [**http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/dillinger/sfeature/sf\_whodunit.html**](http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/dillinger/sfeature/sf_whodunit.html)

**Click the link for “Whodunit?” Read the information presented and follow the directions to complete this activity.**

1. What was the crime? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. What time did it happen? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. How many people were involved? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. How many fingerprints did you collect from the bank? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. How many other fingerprints did you find that could not be used? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
6. Who are your main suspects? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
7. Why would you fingerprint the bank employees? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
8. Follow the directions to match prints from the evidence files to the ones in the fingerprint files.
9. Which person was responsible for the crime? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Site #2: Study Of Faulty Fingerprints Debunks Forensic Science 'Zero Error' Claim** <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2005/09/050913124509.htm>

1. UC Irvine criminologist Simon Cole estimates \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_of incorrect fingerprint “matches” could be made each year in the U.S.
2. Despite the publicly acknowledged cases of error, fingerprint examiners have long held that fingerprint identification is

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and testified in court that their error rate for matching fingerprints is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. Cole’s study appears where?
2. What happened in the Brandon Mayfield case?
3. What are the four safeguards to prevent faulty convictions?
4. What is the error rate of print examiners according to proficiency tests? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. How many mistaken matches could this represent? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_