

Fingerprints & Magnifying Glass



Gather these things before you start:

- white paper
- clear tape
- a pencil
- a magnifying glass

Step 1: Trace your hand below using a pencil.

Step 2: On a different piece of paper, scribble hard with pencil until a small area is covered with graphite. Rub your pinkie around in the graphite until it is covered with gray.

Step 3: Carefully, place your pinky finger on the sticky side of a piece of clear tape, then gently lift your finger off the tape. A clear fingerprint should be visible.

Step 4: Place the tape face-down on the pinky finger of your traced hand.

Step 5: Repeat this with each finger until you have fingerprints on each of the five fingers traced.

Step 6: Inspect your fingerprints under a magnifying glass. (If you don't have one, you'll still be able to see patterns.) Do you see any patterns like loops or arches?

Describe what patterns you saw. Are there any patterns that seem to be the same on multiple fingers?

You can also do this

same thing with your other hand. Are both hands the same? Are the prints on each finger of each hand the same or different?

Trace your hand here.