## think physics

# Science For Families

### **Activity 2.1**

## **Fingerprints**

#### You will need:

A pencil, some clear sticky tape, a piece of plain paper, your finger.

#### Step 1

Heavily shade a 2cm x 2cm square on the paper using the pencil.

#### Step 2

Place the end of a finger on the shaded patch and move it around to cover your finger end with pencil lead.

#### Step 3

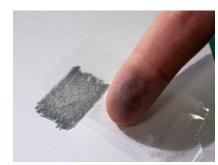
Carefully place a piece of clear sticky tape onto the end of your finger (sticky side onto the finger). Then stick the tape to the plain paper and look closely at your fingerprint. Repeat using your other fingers.

#### **Adult supervision**

Make sure that you wash your hands thoroughly after completing the activity.







## The **BIG** questions

Can you work as a family to answer these BIG questions?

- Compare your fingerprints, do you notice any patterns?
- Do you have toe prints? (There's only one way to find out!)
- Why do you think we have fingerprints?
- Your fingerprints are unique. Why might this be useful?
- Why do think the police take fingerprints?

Compare your prints with these four common types of fingerprint:

Loop



Whorl



Tented Arch



Arch









