

Transcript

What does it take to work in Forensic Science?

Interview with a forensic scientist from BBC Co-Pro 'Forensics: The Real CSI'

Andrew: My job title is a forensic scientist. That entails examining items primarily for the prints of blood and for touch DNA

And we've been looking for DNA from the of handle the item and blood from somebody who may have been actually injured with it.

I started as an apprentice forensic scientist when I was 18 years old, straight from school, A-levels took me 5 years but I managed to get into a degree part time part time and at the same time getting experience as a forensic technician.

And I've been working for West Midlands Police now for nearly 10 years.

This is an ideal job really for me, because it feeds a passion for science. It's rewarding to be at the forefront of forensic science. We have to keep on your toes. You have to know what the latest techniques are.

When I'm going to work. You never know what you could be presented with. It could be working on anything from someone's broke into a garage and stolen a bike or up to a homicide and two individuals have been murdered.

Every time you go to a crime scene or every time you start a case, you look at it as a puzzle. What evidence is there to find?

It's quite apparent that we can. We can recover this evidence, which is very often quite minute, trace materials, because we can then send that to help the cause make the decision as to what's happened in that particular case.

It never escapes you how important the work is and the responsibility that you have for the work you do in. You are dealing with cases which will have implications for the suspect in the case and for the victim, the victim's family.

It's that type of job where you do feel as if you're making a difference.