

Equipment

- Baffle box set up equipment & instructions
- 16 student Baffle box kits, which include ball bearing kit, empty box, plastic cubes, reusable adhesive
- 16 teacher Baffle box kits, which include ball bearing kit, empty box, plastic cubes, reusable adhesive, all-purpose glue

Activity Sheets



Make sure you have copied the activity sheets for this inquiry.

- Activity One: The Baffle Box Model
- Activity Two: The Crime Scene Model
- Activity Three: Focus Questions for Constructing a Model Based on Evidence

Engage

1. Show students the CD-ROM sequence on models.



Select Inquiry #1 “Constructing a Model Based on Evidence” and view the “Castle Model” sequence.

2. In groups, have students brainstorm why scientists use models to illustrate processes, concepts, or objects.
3. Have each group report its ideas. Record the ideas on the overhead or board. Stress at this point all ideas are valid.
4. Explain that in the first activity, students will construct a model based on evidence.

Explore



You will have to assemble the sealed boxes prior to this activity, following the instructions in the Teacher Background.

1. Organize students into pairs.
2. Give each pair an empty baffle box, a set of assorted objects, and a sealed baffle box.
3. Explain that there are several objects inside the sealed baffle box. Their task is to construct a model of what is inside the box without opening the box.
4. Give each student a copy of Activity One. Have students read the directions and complete the activity.