

Main ideas of the unit:

- 1. Crime occurs in the United States everyday, ranging from minor crimes (misdemeanors and summary offenses) to serious crimes (felonies). There are a number of ways one can protect himself/herself from crime. In addition, there are a number of reasons why people commit crimes.**
 - 2. There are many different crimes defined within state and federal laws. Because these crimes range in severity, the punishments vary as well. In addition, various classifications of crime, such as homicide or assault, have various levels of severity.**
 - 3. The criminal justice process is designed to catch and punish lawbreakers, but at the same time protect the rights of the accused until they are convicted. We follow the belief that the accused is “innocent until proven guilty.” Because of this, their rights must be protected.**
 - 4. Juveniles are given a different set of rights and procedures in the criminal justice process. This is designed to give the youth the opportunity for rehabilitation, as well as making the process less intimidating for him/her. This system may also provide juveniles with the benefit of the doubt – they may have personal problems that are a cause of the behavior.**
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STUDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO...

- 1. Define the word law.**
- 2. Explain the goals of laws.**
- 3. Describe requirements for a law to be effective.**
- 4. Define crime.**
- 5. Describe steps you can take to protect yourself from crime.**
- 6. Describe steps you can take if you are the victim of a crime.**
- 7. Identify ways victims can be helped after a crime.**
- 8. Differentiate between a felony and misdemeanor.**
- 9. Identify crimes committed in given scenarios by consulting the Pennsylvania Criminal Justice Handbook.**
- 10. Identify the three forms of homicide that require intent.**
- 11. Describe involuntary manslaughter.**
- 12. Differentiate between various forms of assault.**
- 13. Describe the two categories of rape.**
- 14. Differentiate between various forms of theft.**
- 15. Describe what is needed for the police to make an arrest.**

- 16. List situations when police can search without a search warrant.**
- 17. List rights provided to the accused during an interrogation.**
- 18. Describe rights provided to the accused through the courts.**
- 19. Define prosecutor and defendant.**
- 20. Describe the amount of evidence/proof needed in criminal court.**
- 21. Describe arguments a defendant can make in court.**
- 22. Describe arguments a defendant can make for why they should not be held responsible for a crime they admit to committing.**
- 23. Describe the role that judges play in court.**
- 24. Describe the role that juries play in court.**
- 25. List possible sentences for those convicted.**
- 26. Explain how parents can be held responsible for their child's actions.**
- 27. Explain what constitutes a juvenile.**
- 28. Identify four rights given to juveniles held for delinquent acts.**
- 29. Differentiate between an adjudicatory hearing and criminal trial.**
- 30. Describe services that are provided for a juvenile for postdisposition.**