

WHAT IS YOUR JOB?

In Criminal Court

**You're probably meeting lots
of different grown-ups now.**

**This book will show you who
some of them are and what
their jobs are.**

**It will tell you what your job
is, too!**

POLICE

A police officer's job is to help keep people safe.

They might ask you questions to help them learn about what happened.

Some police officers wear a uniform, but others wear regular clothes.





VICTIM ADVOCATE

**This person's job is to help you
and your family, and to answer
your questions.**

Ask them any questions you have!

DEFENDANT

This person may have done something wrong or broken the rules. Some of the grown-ups have the job of figuring out what happened.

You might hear some people call this person "the defendant."

**WHO IS THE
DEFENDANT IN
YOUR CASE?**



JUDGE

The judge's job is to listen to everyone and then make decisions in the court. They may ask you questions.

JURY

The jury is a group of grown-ups that listen to everyone in court and decide if the defendant did something wrong.





PROSECUTOR

The prosecutor is one of the grown-ups trying to find out what happened. They might ask you questions to help them understand.

If someone broke the rules or made other people unsafe, the prosecutor's job is to make them stop so everyone is safer.

DEFENSE ATTORNEY

The defense attorney's job is to help the person called the defendant. They will try to show that the defendant didn't do anything wrong.





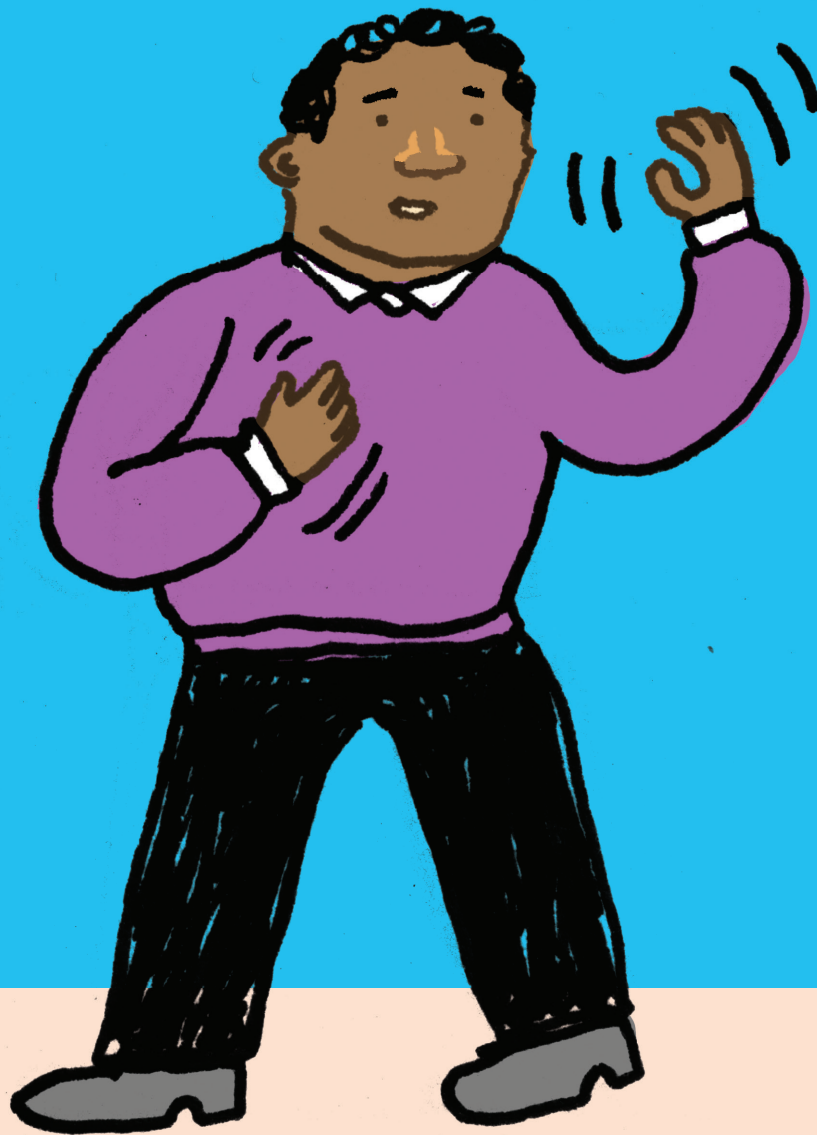
COURT OFFICER

**The court officer tries to make
sure everyone in the court is safe.**

COURT REPORTER

The court reporter's job is to write down everything people say in the courtroom.





INTERPRETER

The interpreter's job is to help anyone who doesn't speak English very well, or who is deaf or hard of hearing, understand what other people in court are saying.

VICTIM

A victim is someone who was hurt when another person did something wrong or broke a rule.

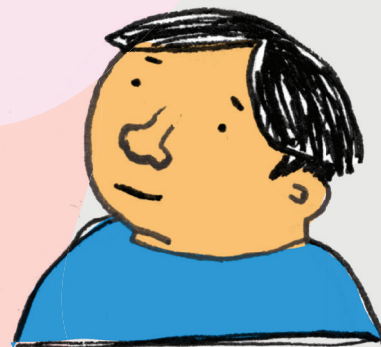
WITNESS

A witness is someone who saw or heard or knows about another person doing something wrong or breaking a rule.



YOU

Your job is to answer questions and tell the grown-ups what you know.



For kids:

DID YOU KNOW...

...that when you go to court the grown-ups have to make sure certain things happen for you?

You are allowed to ask as many questions as you want! If you don't know what's going on, ask!

You should always feel safe. If you feel scared, tell one of the grown-ups right away.

Ask the person who takes care of you or another grown-up to help you understand the other things that should happen.

THE PEOPLE I KNOW

You can use this page to write down the names and contact information of the people you meet.

POLICE OFFICERS

Name:

Information:

VICTIM ADVOCATE

Name:

Information:

PROSECUTOR

Name:

Information:

JUDGE

Name:

Information:

SOCIAL WORKER/THERAPIST

Name:

Information:

OTHERS

Name:

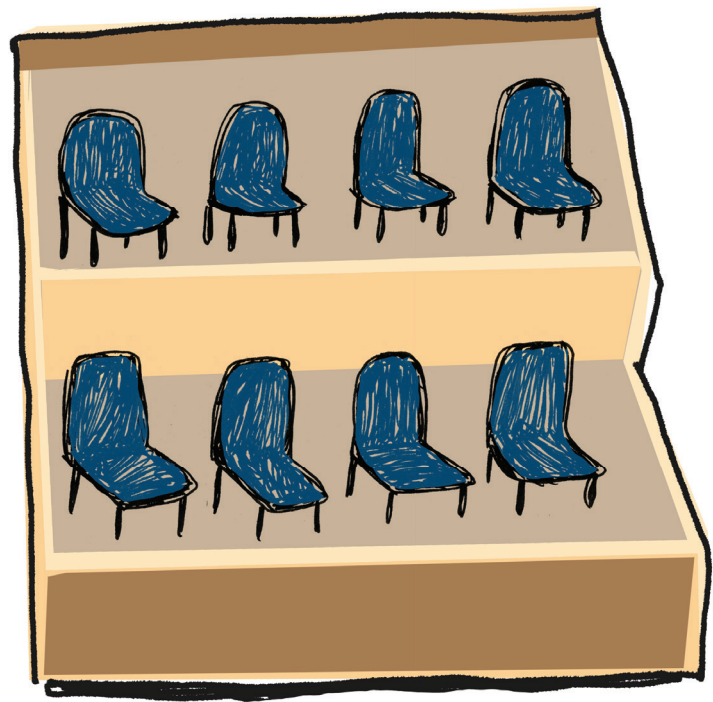
Information:

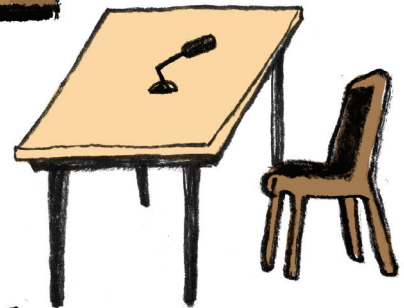
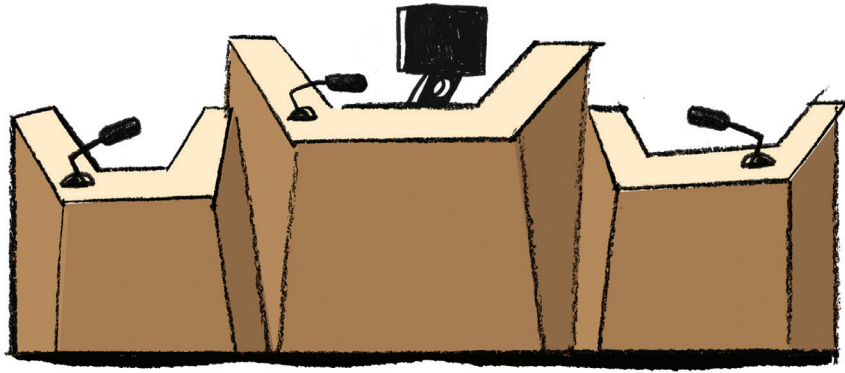
THIS IS THE COURTROOM.

Many people work in the court.

Here is the courtroom.

Where do all the people go?





The Center for Court Innovation's Child Witness Materials Project is a collaborative effort between the Center for Court Innovation and the Center for Urban Pedagogy, and is supported by cooperative agreement #2016-VF-GX-K011, awarded by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office for Victims of Crime. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this document are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

The Center for Court Innovation works to create a more effective and humane justice system by performing original research and helping launch reforms around the world.

www.courtinnovation.org

The Center for Urban Pedagogy is a nonprofit organization that uses the power of design and art to increase meaningful civic engagement, in partnership with historically marginalized communities.

www.welcometoCUP.org

Illustration: Ryan Hartley-Smith

Design: Anabelle Pang

The Center for Court Innovation is grateful to the project partners and stakeholders; and the children, caregivers, and justice system practitioners all over the country who contributed to the development of this product.

NCJ 300642

The Office for Victims of Crime is committed to enhancing the Nation's capacity to assist crime victims and to providing leadership in changing attitudes, policies, and practices to promote justice and healing for all victims of crime.

www.ovc.ojp.gov

The Office of Justice Programs is a federal agency that provides federal leadership, grants, training, technical assistance, and other resources to improve the Nation's capacity to prevent and reduce crime, assist victims, and enhance the rule of law by strengthening the criminal and juvenile justice systems. Its six program offices—the Bureau of Justice Assistance, the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office for Victims of Crime, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and the Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking—support state and local crime-fighting efforts, fund thousands of victim service programs, help communities manage sex offenders, address the needs of youth in the system and children in danger, and provide vital research and data.



Office for Victims of Crime
OVC

