Workstation 1: Geology

I can identify a mixture by observing its components. I can explain how evidence is used to support or refute ideas.

CSI technicians use geology techniques to analyse evidence. Geology is the scientific study of rocks and soils.

A CSI technician has found soil on the floor at a crime scene. The police have found a suspect who has got some soil on her shoes. They think she was at the crime scene. The CSI technician's job is to analyse the evidence from the crime scene to see if it matches the soil on the suspect's shoes.



I am very careful to keep the soil from the suspect and the soil from the crime scene separate. First, I look at both soil samples through a microscope. I then do different tests on the soil samples to find out more about the particles in the soil and the structure of these particles.

In this case, the soil I found on the floor was a very sandy soil made up of small particles. The soil on the suspect's shoes was a clay soil, with larger particles stuck together in clumps.



Does the evidence I tested **support** or **refute** the ideas of the police detectives?



