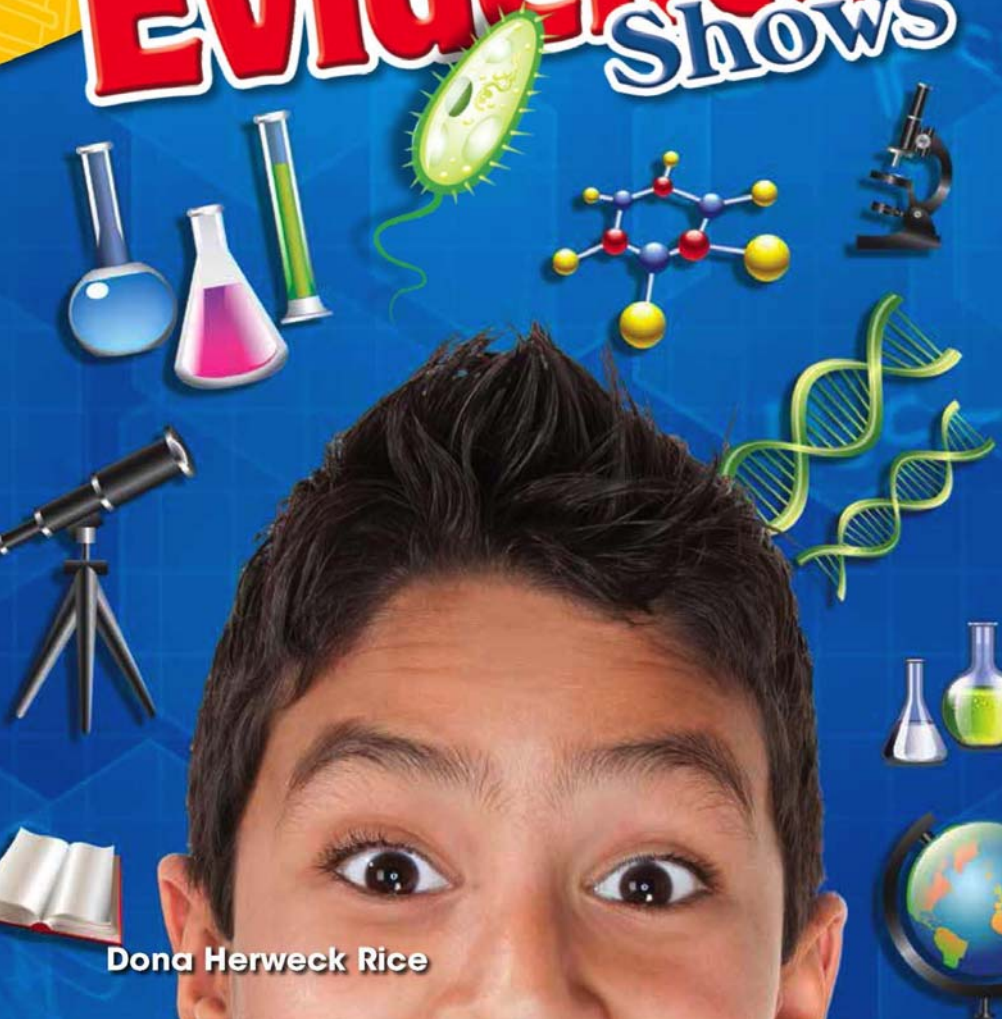


What  
the

# Evidence Shows



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# Order in the Court!

“Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, the **evidence** clearly shows...”

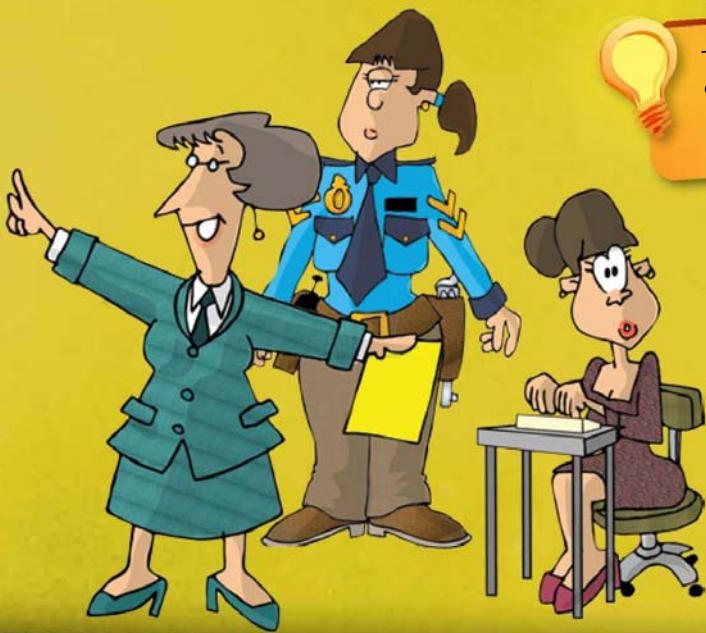
If you’ve watched a courtroom television show, you’ve heard that phrase. Lawyers on each side present evidence to support their side of the case. Of course, they *want* to show only the evidence that’s in their favor. Who wouldn’t want to? It’s their job to prove their side of the story. So, if evidence proving otherwise somehow mysteriously disappears...huh. How could that happen? Go figure! (Wink, wink.)



Well, evidence in a television courtroom is one thing, but evidence in the real world—the world of science—is quite another thing altogether. There is no way to make scientific evidence disappear. And no scientist is trying to prove anything. (It's not in the job description.) It's all about what the evidence shows—**ALL** the evidence. The evidence is just **WHAT IT IS** and can't be changed, twisted, rejected, or overlooked. In fact, the evidence is in the law itself—the laws of science—and these laws cannot be broken!

Scientists don't want to twist the truth: they want to find it. They don't want to manipulate facts; they want to get them straight. They don't want to miss any detail. They work with focus and determination until every detail has been discovered, logged, studied, **analyzed**, tested, and tested again.

If scientists had their own television dramas, the shows would never end. There's always more evidence to be found!



The word *evidence* comes from the Latin word *evidentia*, meaning "clearness."

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