



Investigation: Detective McDevitt

Deputy Notebook for Students

Adapted from notebooks/worksheets created by teachers Karalee Nataksuka & Michelle Koerner
5th-12th Grade

Deputy Notebook

It's 1865. President Abraham Lincoln has just been assassinated.
Detective James McDevitt is on the case. But he needs your help!

You and your classmates are about to embark on an investigation with
Detective McDevitt.

As a deputy, it is your job to keep track of what the detective finds and help
him come to a conclusion. Use this notebook to keep track!



Your Tasks

Define the term **conspiracy**.

Answer this question:

Was the murder of President Lincoln a lone act or a conspiracy?

Take notes as you participate in the investigation.

Figure out the suspects and accomplices for Lincoln's assassination.

The Suspects

Use this chart to keep track of the suspects.

| Suspect / Alias | Evidence: Description, Details, Importance. Connections | Guilty? Why? Why not? | Fate? Arrested, Guilty, etc. |
|-------------------------|---|--|---------------------------------|
| John Wilkes Booth | <i>Example:</i> Famous actor. People in the theatre saw him jump onto the stage | <i>Example:</i> Yes, there were eye witnesses to his crime | |
| Horse | | | |
| Little Johnny Burroughs | | | |
| Edman Spangler | | | |

| Suspect / Alias | Evidence: Description, Details, Importance. Connections | Guilty? Why? Why not? | Fate? Arrested, Guilty, etc. |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|---|
| Mr. Kensler aka (other aliases / names?): | | | |
| John Surratt | | | |
| Mary Surratt | | | |
| George Atzerodt | | | |

| Suspect / Alias | Evidence: Description, Details, Importance. Connections | Guilty? Why? Why not? | Fate? Arrested, Guilty, etc. |
|------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|---|
| David Herold | | | |
| Sam Arnold | | | |
| Samuel Mudd | | | |

Finding Connections

Draw lines to link the suspects to each other **in blue** and to John Wilkes Booth **in red**.



Dr. Samuel Mudd



Ned Spangler



"Mr. Kensler"



George Atzerodt



John Wilkes
Booth



John Surratt



David Herold



Mary Surratt



Samuel Arnold

The Locations

Use this chart to keep track of the scenes of the crime.

| Location | Description/What Happened? | Importance |
|---|----------------------------|------------|
| Ford's Theatre <i>10th Street</i> | | |
| Petersen's Boarding House <i>across from Ford's</i> | | |
| Baptist Alley <i>Rear door of Ford's</i> | | |
| Herndon House <i>9th & F</i> | | |

| Location | Description/What Happened? | Importance |
|--|----------------------------|------------|
| Surratt Boarding House <i>6th Street</i> | | |
| National Hotel <i>Pennsylvania Ave</i> | | |
| Kirkwood House Hotel <i>Pennsylvania Ave. / 12th Street</i> | | |
| Pomfrey Stable | | |

| Location | Description/What Happened? | Importance |
|---|----------------------------|------------|
| Surrattsville Tavern | | |
| Thompson Livery & Stable <i>E Street at 13th</i> | | |
| Navy Yard Bridge | | |
| Seward House <i>Lafayette Park across from White House</i> | | |

Additional Notes & Evidence

Use this page to take notes on other relevant evidence.

Final Questions

Answer these questions in your own words:

1. Do you think John Wilkes Booth's conspiracy was successful? Why or why not?

2. Do you think the conspirators' sentences were justified? Why or why not?