**How Courts Work**

**STEPS in a Trial**

**Bail**

Answer the following questions after completing the readings

Vocabulary:

**Ensure**: make happen

**Fleeing:** leaving or running away

**Own recognizance**: their personal promise to show up at trial

**Bondsperson:** some who helps defendants arrange bail

1. How is “bail” defined?
2. What is the main purpose of bail?
3. If a person shows up for a trial, what happens to their bail?
4. What if a person does not show up for trial?
5. What are the four factors that a judge must use to determine how much bail is needed?

1.

2.

3.

4.

1. Under what circumstances might a judge be willing release a defendant “own their own recognizance?”
2. What can a defendant do if they cannot afford bail?
3. What does a bail bondsman guarantee?