

Child strangled four-year-old to death in Sweden

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Swedish police said Wednesday they had solved the case of a four-year-old boy's tragic death two months ago: He was strangled by another child.

"A 10-year-old boy has confessed to strangling the four-year-old," police said in a statement, adding the older child had used a skipping-rope.

Police did not reveal any motive for the killing of the young boy, called Texas, who disappeared on October 16 from the courtyard outside the apartment building where he lived, in the southern Swedish village of Ljungby.

According to Swedish news reports, the young victim got into a fight with several other children, who had chased him out of the play area.

His body was found a few hours later in a nearby wooded area.

As many as 40 police officers worked on the case, and around 540 interrogations were held, 65 of them with children between the ages of five and 15, police said.

"The difficulty with this investigation has been that the evidence was found with children, and that was a very difficult situation to handle," Yvonne Rudinsson, who headed the investigation, said in the police statement.

Children under the age of 15 cannot be punished under Swedish law, so the case of the 10-year-old killer will be handled by social services.