Case of the Golden Cleat Bandit

Grade 3 math · Rounding, Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication, Division · Reading level grades 3-4

Detective: _____ **Date:** _____

The big trophy match was about to start when the Star Goalkeeper vanished from the locker room. Someone swiped her and left muddy cleat prints across the floor. The coach needs you to find the Golden Cleat Bandit before the final whistle.

1. Solve each math problem. The answer is a number, and the letter beside it is what that number stands for.
2. In the clue boxes, write that letter in every box showing the same number, then read the secret clue.
3. Use each clue to cross suspects off the list. The one suspect left at the end is the culprit!

My answer: the Golden Cleat Bandit is _____

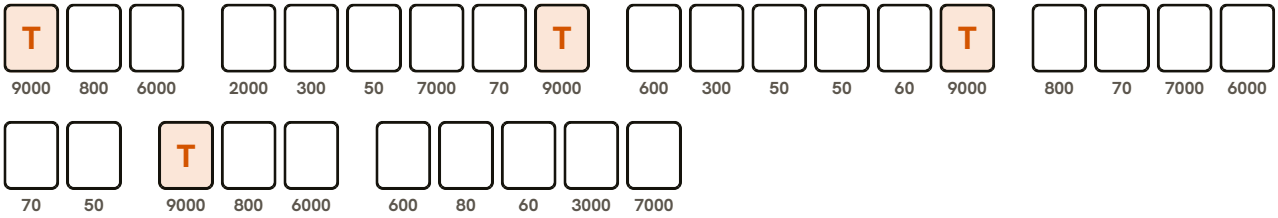
Possible suspects

Cross off a row as each clue rules it out. The one left at the end is the culprit.

NAME	SOCCER SKILL	SNEAKY TRICK	PLAYER TYPE	JERSEY COLOR	WAY TO STOP THEM
Max Diallo	curving free kick	hide in the crowd	boy player	red jersey	a bright spotlight
Ada Flores	lightning sprint	steal the ball	girl player	green jersey	a sticky mud puddle
Sam Rivera	powerful header	fake injury	girl player	blue jersey	a bright spotlight
Tess Kapoor	curving free kick	slide tackle	boy player	blue jersey	a sticky mud puddle
Eli Carter	bicycle kick	hide in the crowd	boy player	red jersey	a sticky mud puddle
Nina Vega	bicycle kick	climb the goal net	girl player	red jersey	a bright spotlight
Aria Cole	powerful header	climb the goal net	boy player	blue jersey	a sticky mud puddle
Kai Johnson	bicycle kick	steal the ball	boy player	green jersey	a bright spotlight
Gia Russo	curving free kick	fake injury	girl player	green jersey	a bright spotlight
Lily Chen	tricky dribble	climb the goal net	girl player	green jersey	a sticky mud puddle
Jude Silva	curving free kick	slide tackle	boy player	green jersey	a bright spotlight
Ben Okafor	tricky dribble	fake injury	boy player	red jersey	a sticky mud puddle
Finn Murphy	curving free kick	slide tackle	boy player	red jersey	a bright spotlight
Cole Mensah	curving free kick	fake injury	boy player	red jersey	a sticky mud puddle
Maya Torres	tricky dribble	hide in the crowd	girl player	green jersey	a bright spotlight
Owen Blake	bicycle kick	steal the ball	girl player	green jersey	a sticky mud puddle
Noah Reyes	tricky dribble	steal the ball	boy player	red jersey	a sticky mud puddle
Zoe Adams	lightning sprint	slide tackle	boy player	red jersey	a bright spotlight
Pia Nilsson	curving free kick	slide tackle	boy player	red jersey	a sticky mud puddle
Leo Park	tricky dribble	steal the ball	girl player	red jersey	a bright spotlight
Mira Hassan	lightning sprint	fake injury	girl player	red jersey	a sticky mud puddle

CLUE 1 Rounding

Solve each problem, then write its letter in every clue box that shows the same number.

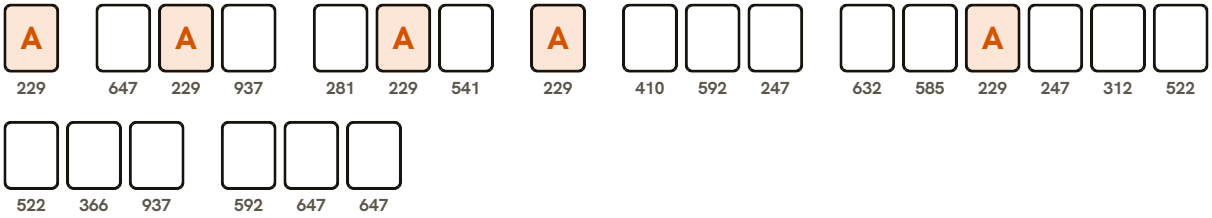


Round 9,481 to the nearest thousand		T	Round 53 to the nearest ten		N	Round 5,790 to the nearest thousand		E
Round 763 to the nearest hundred		H	Round 56 to the nearest ten		O	Round 251 to the nearest hundred		A
Round 3,399 to the nearest thousand		W	Round 84 to the nearest ten		R	Round 2,374 to the nearest thousand		B
Round 6,994 to the nearest thousand		D	Round 601 to the nearest hundred		C	Round 68 to the nearest ten		I

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Addition

Solve each problem, then write its letter in every clue box that shows the same number.

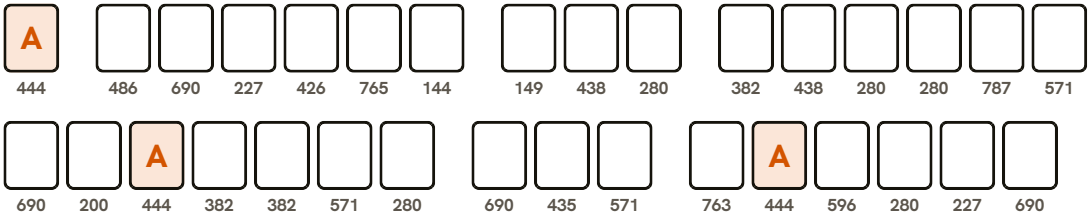


109 + 120 =		A	455 + 482 =		N	291 + 301 =		O
340 + 182 =		R	131 + 150 =		S	303 + 282 =		L
353 + 188 =		W	237 + 395 =		P	171 + 76 =		Y
168 + 242 =		B	411 + 236 =		F	212 + 154 =		U
217 + 95 =		E						

Scratch space:

CLUE 3 Subtraction

Solve each problem, then write its letter in every clue box that shows the same number.

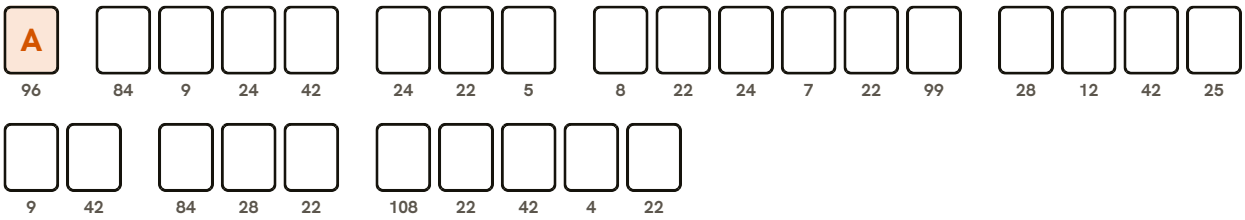


618 - 174 =		A	814 - 243 =		E	437 - 2 =		H
328 - 179 =		M	626 - 140 =		S	469 - 31 =		U
1013 - 226 =		L	932 - 167 =		K	600 - 4 =		N
973 - 283 =		T	819 - 393 =		C	731 - 349 =		P
356 - 156 =		R	488 - 208 =		D	522 - 378 =		Y
440 - 213 =		I	980 - 217 =		B			

Scratch space:

CLUE 4 Multiplication facts (1-12)

Solve each problem, then write its letter in every clue box that shows the same number.



8 × 12 =		A	7 × 12 =		T	7 × 1 =		S
4 × 7 =		H	2 × 4 =		J	4 × 1 =		C
9 × 11 =		Y	5 × 5 =		G	5 × 1 =		D
6 × 7 =		N	11 × 2 =		E	6 × 2 =		U
9 × 1 =		O	12 × 9 =		F	4 × 6 =		R

Scratch space:

CLUE 5 Division facts (1-12) - the last clue

First solve each problem. Then find each answer in the numbered list below and cross that sentence out. One sentence will be left - that is exactly what the villain did!

Step 1 - solve these:

63 ÷ 9 = ☐	12 ÷ 3 = ☐	4 ÷ 4 = ☐
50 ÷ 5 = ☐	132 ÷ 11 = ☐	8 ÷ 4 = ☐
12 ÷ 4 = ☐	81 ÷ 9 = ☐	40 ÷ 8 = ☐
33 ÷ 3 = ☐	40 ÷ 5 = ☐	

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain weaves through with tricky dribbling, then steals the ball away.
2. The villain jumps up for a strong header, then scrambles up the goal net.
3. The villain bends a sneaky free kick, then steals the ball away.
4. The villain weaves through with tricky dribbling, then fakes a hurt ankle.
5. The villain jumps up for a strong header, then fakes a hurt ankle.
6. The villain bends a sneaky free kick, then dashes for the tunnel.
7. The villain bends a sneaky free kick, then fakes a hurt ankle.
8. The villain bursts past everyone with a sprint, then steals the ball away.
9. The villain leaps into a bicycle kick, then fakes a hurt ankle.
10. The villain jumps up for a strong header, then slides in with a tackle.
11. The villain bursts past everyone with a sprint, then fakes a hurt ankle.
12. The villain weaves through with tricky dribbling, then slides in with a tackle.

TEACHER / PARENT

Answer Key

Case of the Golden Cleat Bandit

Culprit: Pia Nilsson

curving free kick · slide tackle · boy player · red jersey · a sticky mud puddle

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 18 → Clue 2 10 → Clue 3 6 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Rounding): "THE BANDIT CANNOT HIDE IN THE CROWD"

Round 9,481 to the nearest thousand = 9000 (T) · Round 53 to the nearest ten = 50 (N) · Round 5,790 to the nearest thousand = 6000 (E) · Round 763 to the nearest hundred = 800 (H) · Round 56 to the nearest ten = 60 (O) · Round 251 to the nearest hundred = 300 (A) · Round 3,399 to the nearest thousand = 3000 (W) · Round 84 to the nearest ten = 80 (R) · Round 2,374 to the nearest thousand = 2000 (B) · Round 6,994 to the nearest thousand = 7000 (D) · Round 601 to the nearest hundred = 600 (C) · Round 68 to the nearest ten = 70 (I)

Clue 2 (Addition): "A FAN SAW A BOY PLAYER RUN OFF"

109 + 120 = 229 (A) · 455 + 482 = 937 (N) · 291 + 301 = 592 (O) · 340 + 182 = 522 (R) · 131 + 150 = 281 (S) · 303 + 282 = 585 (L) · 353 + 188 = 541 (W) · 237 + 395 = 632 (P) · 171 + 76 = 247 (Y) · 168 + 242 = 410 (B) · 411 + 236 = 647 (F) · 212 + 154 = 366 (U) · 217 + 95 = 312 (E)

Clue 3 (Subtraction): "A STICKY MUD PUDDLE TRAPPED THE BANDIT"

618 - 174 = 444 (A) · 814 - 243 = 571 (E) · 437 - 2 = 435 (H) · 328 - 179 = 149 (M) · 626 - 140 = 486 (S) · 469 - 31 = 438 (U) · 1013 - 226 = 787 (L) · 932 - 167 = 765 (K) · 600 - 4 = 596 (N) · 973 - 283 = 690 (T) · 819 - 393 = 426 (C) · 731 - 349 = 382 (P) · 356 - 156 = 200 (R) · 488 - 208 = 280 (D) · 522 - 378 = 144 (Y) · 440 - 213 = 227 (I) · 980 - 217 = 763 (B)

Clue 4 (Multiplication facts (1-12)): "A TORN RED JERSEY HUNG ON THE FENCE"

8 × 12 = 96 (A) · 7 × 12 = 84 (T) · 7 × 1 = 7 (S) · 4 × 7 = 28 (H) · 2 × 4 = 8 (J) · 4 × 1 = 4 (C) · 9 × 11 = 99 (Y) · 5 × 5 = 25 (G) · 5 × 1 = 5 (D) · 6 × 7 = 42 (N) · 11 × 2 = 22 (E) · 6 × 2 = 12 (U) · 9 × 1 = 9 (O) · 12 × 9 = 108 (F) · 4 × 6 = 24 (R)

Clue 5 (Division facts (1-12)): surviving statement is box 6 → Pia Nilsson

63 ÷ 9 = 7 · 12 ÷ 3 = 4 · 4 ÷ 4 = 1 · 50 ÷ 5 = 10 · 132 ÷ 11 = 12 · 8 ÷ 4 = 2 · 12 ÷ 4 = 3 · 81 ÷ 9 = 9 · 40 ÷ 8 = 5 · 33 ÷ 3 = 11 · 40 ÷ 5 = 8