



Case of the Super Bad Superhero

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

Detective: _____ Date: _____

A villain hides among the heroes of Mathhattan and has kidnapped the Mayor. The police can't tell friend from phony - only a sharp math detective can. Solve each clue's math to decode it, cross suspects off the list, and name the one hero left standing.

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 Super Bad Superhero is _____

Possible suspects

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

NAME	MAIN POWER	EXTRA POWER	MASK	HAIR	WEAKNESS
Mega Mage	Teleportation	Poisonous Burps	Masked	Purple	Silver
The Giggler	Energy Blasts	Sonic Scream	Masked	Purple	Silver
Blitzfire	Energy Blasts	Shape Shifting	Masked	Purple	Sunlight
Zapman	Teleportation	Shape Shifting	Unmasked	Purple	Silver
Pizza Peter	Energy Blasts	Shape Shifting	Masked	Orange	Silver
Colossal Crush	Invisibility	Poisonous Burps	Masked	Green	Silver
Starlight	Super Speed	Shape Shifting	Masked	Purple	Cookies
Lion Man	Invisibility	Poisonous Burps	Unmasked	Purple	Silver
Owl Man	Invisibility	Flight	Masked	Green	Sunlight
Captain Nucleus	Invisibility	Shape Shifting	Masked	Purple	Silver
Titanicus	Teleportation	Super Strength	Masked	Orange	Cookies
Thunder Hawk	Mind Control	Shape Shifting	Masked	Orange	Sunlight
Splash	Energy Blasts	Flight	Masked	Purple	Sunlight
Quasar	Mind Control	Sonic Scream	Masked	Purple	Sunlight
Blinker	Mind Control	Super Strength	Unmasked	Green	Silver
Dare Girl	Energy Blasts	Super Strength	Unmasked	Orange	Sunlight
Mrs. Amazing	Invisibility	Poisonous Burps	Unmasked	Orange	Cookies
Doctor Bolt	Invisibility	Flight	Masked	Purple	Sunlight
Iron Vox	Invisibility	Flight	Unmasked	Green	Silver
Razor	Mind Control	Shape Shifting	Masked	Purple	Silver
Nightgale	Invisibility	Flight	Masked	Purple	Silver

CLUE 1 Rounding

A torn note flutters out of the Mayor's office - but the words are hidden behind a math code. Solve it to read the first clue.

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

T																			
9000	700	900	800	80	60	60	5000	80	400	7000	5000	400	400	600	9000	2000	60	8000	

Round 8,723 to the nearest thousand → **T**

Round 7,305 to the nearest thousand → **C**

Round 587 to the nearest hundred → **O**

Round 670 to the nearest hundred → **H**

Round 57 to the nearest ten → **L**

Round 852 to the nearest hundred → **E**

Round 423 to the nearest hundred → **N**

Round 82 to the nearest ten → **I**

Round 781 to the nearest hundred → **V**

Round 4,832 to the nearest thousand → **A**

Round 7,976 to the nearest thousand → **Y**

Round 1,594 to the nearest thousand → **F**

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Addition

A witness left a message at the scene, locked behind more math. Work it out to hear what they saw.

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

A																	
569	951	302	420	580	354	866	866	908	354	348	819	908	420	866	420	823	354

A									A			A				
569	580	420	302	823	354	908	819	951	569	866	252	569	866	498	354	939

$343 + 226 = \square \rightarrow \mathbf{A}$	$584 + 282 = \square \rightarrow \mathbf{S}$	$658 + 293 = \square \rightarrow \mathbf{W}$
$230 + 118 = \square \rightarrow \mathbf{P}$	$179 + 319 = \square \rightarrow \mathbf{K}$	$205 + 215 = \square \rightarrow \mathbf{T}$
$266 + 553 = \square \rightarrow \mathbf{O}$	$148 + 154 = \square \rightarrow \mathbf{I}$	$168 + 186 = \square \rightarrow \mathbf{E}$
$563 + 376 = \square \rightarrow \mathbf{D}$	$389 + 434 = \square \rightarrow \mathbf{H}$	$136 + 116 = \square \rightarrow \mathbf{M}$
$350 + 558 = \square \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$	$196 + 384 = \square \rightarrow \mathbf{N}$	

Scratch space:

CLUE 3

Subtraction

Down at the docks, someone scared the villain off and scribbled how. Crack the numbers to find out.

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

A		A						A											
515	330	515	673	898	471	199	515	528	730	673	425	560	560	391	503	730			
A																			
515	342	391	577	503	730	528	425	105	577	391	503	471	577	330	416	730	528		

$733 - 218 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{A}}$

$609 - 193 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{V}}$

$894 - 221 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{D}}$

$596 - 266 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{L}}$

$1020 - 290 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{E}}$

$631 - 71 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{F}}$

$1232 - 334 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{Y}}$

$806 - 229 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{I}}$

$536 - 194 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{N}}$

$664 - 239 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{O}}$

$882 - 354 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{R}}$

$319 - 120 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{C}}$

$690 - 219 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{S}}$

$694 - 303 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{T}}$

$244 - 139 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{W}}$

$650 - 147 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{H}}$

Scratch space:

CLUE 4

Multiplication facts (1-12)

The clean-up crew found something the villain dropped. Do the math to see what it was.

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

Y																	
22	28	55	120	14	60	84	45	24	27	35	60	84	45	28	120		
70	55	27	70	36	63	100	35	14	27	96	100	63	27	63	24	100	63
		Y															
144	35	22	28	27	96	35	45	24	35	5	63	60					

$11 \times 2 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{Y}}$

$4 \times 6 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{T}}$

$5 \times 7 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{A}}$

$12 \times 8 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{W}}$

$12 \times 12 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{M}}$

$10 \times 10 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{H}}$

$7 \times 10 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{P}}$

$9 \times 5 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{S}}$

$4 \times 7 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{O}}$

$7 \times 9 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{E}}$

$3 \times 12 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{L}}$

$9 \times 3 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{R}}$

$12 \times 7 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{D}}$

$2 \times 7 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{I}}$

$10 \times 6 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{N}}$

$5 \times 11 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{U}}$

$5 \times 1 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{K}}$

$12 \times 10 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{F}}$

Scratch space:

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

You've almost got it. One last set of numbers will reveal exactly how the villain pulled it off.

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:

$36 \div 6 = \boxed{}$

$45 \div 5 = \boxed{}$

$7 \div 1 = \boxed{}$

$15 \div 5 = \boxed{}$

$64 \div 8 = \boxed{}$

$10 \div 1 = \boxed{}$

$36 \div 3 = \boxed{}$

$7 \div 7 = \boxed{}$

$55 \div 11 = \boxed{}$

$16 \div 8 = \boxed{}$

$16 \div 4 = \boxed{}$

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain bends minds to make victims obey, then lets out a poisonous burp to weaken them.
2. The villain bends minds to make victims obey, then takes to the sky.
3. The villain races through the streets at impossible speed, then tears open locked doors with raw strength.
4. The villain fires crackling energy blasts, then takes to the sky.
5. The villain bends minds to make victims obey, then unleashes a sonic scream.
6. The villain bends minds to make victims obey, then shape-shifts into a familiar face.
7. The villain fires crackling energy blasts, then unleashes a sonic scream.
8. The villain races through the streets at impossible speed, then unleashes a sonic scream.
9. The villain turns invisible to slip past everyone, then shape-shifts into a familiar face.
10. The villain fires crackling energy blasts, then shape-shifts into a familiar face.
11. The villain teleports behind victims without warning, then lets out a poisonous burp to weaken them.
12. The villain races through the streets at impossible speed, then shape-shifts into a familiar face.

Answer Key

Case of the Super Bad Superhero

Culprit: Mega Mage

Teleportation · Poisonous Burps · Masked · Purple · Silver

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 16 → Clue 2 11 → Clue 3 6 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Rounding): "THE VILLAIN CANNOT FLY"

Round 8,723 to the nearest thousand = 9000 (T) · Round 7,305 to the nearest thousand = 7000 (C) · Round 587 to the nearest hundred = 600 (O) · Round 670 to the nearest hundred = 700 (H) · Round 57 to the nearest ten = 60 (L) · Round 852 to the nearest hundred = 900 (E) · Round 423 to the nearest hundred = 400 (N) · Round 82 to the nearest ten = 80 (I) · Round 781 to the nearest hundred = 800 (V) · Round 4,832 to the nearest thousand = 5000 (A) · Round 7,976 to the nearest thousand = 8000 (Y) · Round 1,594 to the nearest thousand = 2000 (F)

Clue 2 (Addition): "A WITNESS REPORTS THE ANTIHERO WAS MASKED"

$343 + 226 = 569$ (A) · $584 + 282 = 866$ (S) · $658 + 293 = 951$ (W) · $230 + 118 = 348$ (P) · $179 + 319 = 498$ (K) · $205 + 215 = 420$ (T) · $266 + 553 = 819$ (O) · $148 + 154 = 302$ (I) · $168 + 186 = 354$ (E) · $563 + 376 = 939$ (D) · $389 + 434 = 823$ (H) · $136 + 116 = 252$ (M) · $350 + 558 = 908$ (R) · $196 + 384 = 580$ (N)

Clue 3 (Subtraction): "A LADY SCARED OFF THE ANTIHERO WITH SILVER"

$733 - 218 = 515$ (A) · $609 - 193 = 416$ (V) · $894 - 221 = 673$ (D) · $596 - 266 = 330$ (L) · $1020 - 290 = 730$ (E) · $631 - 71 = 560$ (F) · $1232 - 334 = 898$ (Y) · $806 - 229 = 577$ (I) · $536 - 194 = 342$ (N) · $664 - 239 = 425$ (O) · $882 - 354 = 528$ (R) · $319 - 120 = 199$ (C) · $690 - 219 = 471$ (S) · $694 - 303 = 391$ (T) · $244 - 139 = 105$ (W) · $650 - 147 = 503$ (H)

Clue 4 (Multiplication facts (1-12)): "YOU FIND STRANDS OF PURPLE HAIR WHERE THE MAYOR WAS TAKEN"

$11 \times 2 = 22$ (Y) · $4 \times 6 = 24$ (T) · $5 \times 7 = 35$ (A) · $12 \times 8 = 96$ (W) · $12 \times 12 = 144$ (M) · $10 \times 10 = 100$ (H) · $7 \times 10 = 70$ (P) · $9 \times 5 = 45$ (S) · $4 \times 7 = 28$ (O) · $7 \times 9 = 63$ (E) · $3 \times 12 = 36$ (L) · $9 \times 3 = 27$ (R) · $12 \times 7 = 84$ (D) · $2 \times 7 = 14$ (I) · $10 \times 6 = 60$ (N) · $5 \times 11 = 55$ (U) · $5 \times 1 = 5$ (K) · $12 \times 10 = 120$ (F)

Clue 5 (Division facts (1-12)): surviving statement is box 11 → Mega Mage

$36 \div 6 = 6$ · $45 \div 5 = 9$ · $7 \div 1 = 7$ · $15 \div 5 = 3$ · $64 \div 8 = 8$ · $10 \div 1 = 10$ · $36 \div 3 = 12$ · $7 \div 7 = 1$ · $55 \div 11 = 5$ · $16 \div 8 = 2$ · $16 \div 4 = 4$