



The Big Championship Heist

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

Detective: _____ Date: _____

The golden championship basketball has disappeared from the display case right before the playoff game! We need to follow the clues, track down the sneaky thief, and save the tournament before the final buzzer!

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 Sneaker Snatcher is _____

Possible suspects

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

NAME	SIGNATURE MOVE	LUCKY GEAR	SHOOTING HAND	HEADBAND COLOR	DEFENSE WEAKNESS
Giannis	Half-court hook shot	Stripey tall socks	Right-handed shooter	Red stripe headband	Loud crowd cheers
Kevin	No-look bounce pass	Glowing wristband	Right-handed shooter	Green lightning headband	Double team defense
Kyrie	No-look bounce pass	Stripey tall socks	Right-handed shooter	Green lightning headband	Double team defense
Nikola	Behind-the-back dribble	Squeaky neon sneakers	Right-handed shooter	Green lightning headband	Double team defense
Trae	No-look bounce pass	Stripey tall socks	Left-handed shooter	Red stripe headband	Loud crowd cheers
Jimmy	No-look bounce pass	Slick silver elbow pad	Right-handed shooter	Green lightning headband	Double team defense
Zion	Backboard-shaking slam dunk	Slick silver elbow pad	Right-handed shooter	Green lightning headband	Double team defense
Chris	No-look bounce pass	Stripey tall socks	Left-handed shooter	Green lightning headband	Double team defense
Draymond	Backboard-shaking slam dunk	Slick silver elbow pad	Right-handed shooter	Green lightning headband	Slippery court wax
Anthony	Behind-the-back dribble	Stripey tall socks	Left-handed shooter	Blue star headband	Double team defense
Russell	Half-court hook shot	Glowing wristband	Right-handed shooter	Green lightning headband	Double team defense
James	Backboard-shaking slam dunk	Stripey tall socks	Left-handed shooter	Blue star headband	Double team defense
Shaq	Half-court hook shot	Stripey tall socks	Right-handed shooter	Red stripe headband	Double team defense
Ja	Behind-the-back dribble	Glowing wristband	Left-handed shooter	Green lightning headband	Slippery court wax
Luka	Behind-the-back dribble	Squeaky neon sneakers	Left-handed shooter	Red stripe headband	Slippery court wax
LeBron	No-look bounce pass	Stripey tall socks	Right-handed shooter	Blue star headband	Double team defense
Joel	No-look bounce pass	Squeaky neon sneakers	Right-handed shooter	Green lightning headband	Loud crowd cheers
Kobe	Half-court hook shot	Slick silver elbow pad	Right-handed shooter	Green lightning headband	Double team defense
Jayson	Half-court hook shot	Gold whistle	Right-handed shooter	Blue star headband	Double team defense
Kawhi	Half-court hook shot	Gold whistle	Left-handed shooter	Blue star headband	Slippery court wax
Steph	No-look bounce pass	Stripey tall socks	Right-handed shooter	Blue star headband	Loud crowd cheers

CLUE 1 Rounding

We checked the speed radar on the thief's fast break. The radar screen only shows rounded numbers, but calculating the nearest ten gives us our first major lead!

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

T 900	370	1300	T 900	370	2000	1300	1700	3700	70	1300	7000	2900	70	T 900	300	1300	170	5000
T 900	370	1300	1300	30	9000	70	300	1100	170	3700								

Round 909 to the nearest hundred →

T

Round 292 to the nearest hundred →

W

Round 1,718 to the nearest thousand →

I

Round 1,347 to the nearest hundred →

E

Round 1,670 to the nearest hundred →

F

Round 28 to the nearest ten →

L

Round 1,124 to the nearest hundred →

P

Round 171 to the nearest ten →

A

Round 6,860 to the nearest thousand →

S

Round 5,007 to the nearest thousand →

R

Round 2,905 to the nearest hundred →

N

Round 9,173 to the nearest thousand →

B

Round 3,651 to the nearest hundred →

D

Round 371 to the nearest ten →

H

Round 68 to the nearest ten →

O

Scratch space:

CLUE 2

Multiplication facts (1-12)

We found several crates of practice balls left behind in the gym. Multiplying the rows of balls in each crate will help us unlock the next clue!

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

T															
22	7	1	33	12	48	48	99	12	40	22	7	70	18	99	110
		T		T						T					
99	63	22	7	22	7	1	70	63	80	7	22	7	12	110	3

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

$3 \times 11 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{B}}$

$6 \times 8 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{L}}$

$2 \times 6 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{A}}$

$11 \times 9 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{W}}$

$7 \times 1 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{H}}$

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

$3 \times 1 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{D}}$

$3 \times 6 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{O}}$

$11 \times 10 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{N}}$

$8 \times 5 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{S}}$

$1 \times 1 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{E}}$

$10 \times 8 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{G}}$

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

Scratch space:

CLUE 3 Addition

Let's tally up all the jersey numbers of the players who saw the runner. Adding these numbers together reveals the third secret!

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

T			T															
3369	4002	3699	3369	4002	3674	3699	6508	6508	2722	7703	9127	3356	3699	6142	9250	4002	3699	4420
T																		
3369	9250	6935	6142	3699	6508	3699	4420	6142	3699	2742	5904	2742	9146	4420	2722	2872		

$1786 + 1583 = \square \rightarrow \text{[T]}$	$1577 + 1165 = \square \rightarrow \text{[R]}$	$3392 + 3543 = \square \rightarrow \text{[O]}$
$1760 + 1914 = \square \rightarrow \text{[I]}$	$3016 + 1404 = \square \rightarrow \text{[N]}$	$2030 + 1669 = \square \rightarrow \text{[E]}$
$2310 + 3594 = \square \rightarrow \text{[S]}$	$1984 + 888 = \square \rightarrow \text{[P]}$	$2000 + 4508 = \square \rightarrow \text{[F]}$
$1207 + 2795 = \square \rightarrow \text{[H]}$	$2917 + 3225 = \square \rightarrow \text{[D]}$	$5084 + 4166 = \square \rightarrow \text{[W]}$
$5661 + 3466 = \square \rightarrow \text{[B]}$	$3838 + 5308 = \square \rightarrow \text{[A]}$	$1408 + 1314 = \square \rightarrow \text{[U]}$
$1883 + 1473 = \square \rightarrow \text{[L]}$	$4217 + 3486 = \square \rightarrow \text{[M]}$	

Scratch space:

CLUE 4 Subtraction

The thief let air out of some official basketballs to slow down our pursuit. Subtracting the flat balls from the pumped ones gives us a brand new hint!

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

A																	A		
4126	5930	7349	3999	3999	2886	7890	3466	5930	5916	7939	2886	3466	2886	5930	1361	4126	2886	2468	

	A														
7765	4126	1567	7890	3999	7287	7939	1530	2886	7939	5916	3999	5916	1530	1530	8559

8620 - 4494 = → A	6537 - 621 = → H	4030 - 1144 = → N
6079 - 149 = → G	2786 - 1219 = → S	7759 - 4293 = → I
9426 - 1536 = → L	4308 - 2947 = → B	10676 - 3389 = → F
8284 - 935 = → R	12760 - 4201 = → P	4652 - 2184 = → D
11509 - 3570 = → T	6361 - 4831 = → O	12035 - 4270 = → W
5417 - 1418 = → E		

Scratch space:

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

We need to divide our rookie scouts into equal teams to search the upper decks. Solving this division problem reveals the final 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:

$3 \div 1 = \boxed{}$

$5 \div 5 = \boxed{}$

$36 \div 6 = \boxed{}$

$36 \div 3 = \boxed{}$

$64 \div 8 = \boxed{}$

$20 \div 10 = \boxed{}$

$11 \div 1 = \boxed{}$

$35 \div 7 = \boxed{}$

$45 \div 5 = \boxed{}$

$36 \div 9 = \boxed{}$

$30 \div 3 = \boxed{}$

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain faked everyone out with a no-look bounce pass, then dashed off in stripey tall socks.
2. The villain crossed up the guard with an ankle-breaker crossover, then flashed a glowing wristband in the dark.
3. The villain faked everyone out with a no-look bounce pass, then flashed a glowing wristband in the dark.
4. The villain faked everyone out with a no-look bounce pass, then adjusted a slick silver elbow pad.
5. The villain dribbled behind their back to escape, then flashed a glowing wristband in the dark.
6. The villain dribbled behind their back to escape, then squeaked away in neon sneakers.
7. The villain pulled off a half-court hook shot, then flashed a glowing wristband in the dark.
8. The villain crossed up the guard with an ankle-breaker crossover, then adjusted a slick silver elbow pad.
9. The villain faked everyone out with a no-look bounce pass, then squeaked away in neon sneakers.
10. The villain shook the hoop with a slam dunk, then flashed a glowing wristband in the dark.
11. The villain shook the hoop with a slam dunk, then blew a gold whistle to distract the referee.
12. The villain pulled off a half-court hook shot, then adjusted a slick silver elbow pad.

Answer Key

The Big Championship Heist

Culprit: Russell

Half-court hook shot · Glowing wristband · Right-handed shooter · Green lightning headband · Double team defense

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 17 → Clue 2 10 → Clue 3 7 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Rounding): "THE THIEF DOES NOT WEAR THE ELBOW PAD"

Round 909 to the nearest hundred = 900 (T) · Round 292 to the nearest hundred = 300 (W) · Round 1,718 to the nearest thousand = 2000 (I) · Round 1,347 to the nearest hundred = 1300 (E) · Round 1,670 to the nearest hundred = 1700 (F) · Round 28 to the nearest ten = 30 (L) · Round 1,124 to the nearest hundred = 1100 (P) · Round 171 to the nearest ten = 170 (A) · Round 6,860 to the nearest thousand = 7000 (S) · Round 5,007 to the nearest thousand = 5000 (R) · Round 2,905 to the nearest hundred = 2900 (N) · Round 9,173 to the nearest thousand = 9000 (B) · Round 3,651 to the nearest hundred = 3700 (D) · Round 371 to the nearest ten = 370 (H) · Round 68 to the nearest ten = 70 (O)

Clue 2 (Multiplication facts (1-12)): "THE BALL WAS THROWN WITH THE RIGHT HAND"

$11 \times 2 = 22$ (T) · $3 \times 11 = 33$ (B) · $6 \times 8 = 48$ (L) · $2 \times 6 = 12$ (A) · $11 \times 9 = 99$ (W) · $7 \times 1 = 7$ (H) · $10 \times 7 = 70$ (R) · $3 \times 1 = 3$ (D) · $3 \times 6 = 18$ (O) · $11 \times 10 = 110$ (N) · $8 \times 5 = 40$ (S) · $1 \times 1 = 1$ (E) · $10 \times 8 = 80$ (G) · $7 \times 9 = 63$ (I)

Clue 3 (Addition): "THE THIEF FUMBLED WHEN TWO DEFENDERS RAN UP"

$1786 + 1583 = 3369$ (T) · $1577 + 1165 = 2742$ (R) · $3392 + 3543 = 6935$ (O) · $1760 + 1914 = 3674$ (I) · $3016 + 1404 = 4420$ (N) · $2030 + 1669 = 3699$ (E) · $2310 + 3594 = 5904$ (S) · $1984 + 888 = 2872$ (P) · $2000 + 4508 = 6508$ (F) · $1207 + 2795 = 4002$ (H) · $2917 + 3225 = 6142$ (D) · $5084 + 4166 = 9250$ (W) · $5661 + 3466 = 9127$ (B) · $3838 + 5308 = 9146$ (A) · $1408 + 1314 = 2722$ (U) · $1883 + 1473 = 3356$ (L) · $4217 + 3486 = 7703$ (M)

Clue 4 (Subtraction): "A GREEN LIGHTNING BAND WAS LEFT ON THE HOOP"

$8620 - 4494 = 4126$ (A) · $6537 - 621 = 5916$ (H) · $4030 - 1144 = 2886$ (N) · $6079 - 149 = 5930$ (G) · $2786 - 1219 = 1567$ (S) · $7759 - 4293 = 3466$ (I) · $9426 - 1536 = 7890$ (L) · $4308 - 2947 = 1361$ (B) · $10676 - 3389 = 7287$ (F) · $8284 - 935 = 7349$ (R) · $12760 - 4201 = 8559$ (P) · $4652 - 2184 = 2468$ (D) · $11509 - 3570 = 7939$ (T) · $6361 - 4831 = 1530$ (O) · $12035 - 4270 = 7765$ (W) · $5417 - 1418 = 3999$ (E)

Clue 5 (Division facts (1-12)): surviving statement is box 7 → Russell

$3 \div 1 = 3$ · $5 \div 5 = 1$ · $36 \div 6 = 6$ · $36 \div 3 = 12$ · $64 \div 8 = 8$ · $20 \div 10 = 2$ · $11 \div 1 = 11$ · $35 \div 7 = 5$ · $45 \div 5 = 9$ · $36 \div 9 = 4$ · $30 \div 3 = 10$