The Big Court Caper

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

Detective: _____ **Date:** _____

The golden championship trophy has vanished right before the final buzzer! A mysterious player snuck onto the court and snatched it. We need to find the culprit among the players before the game starts!

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 Sneaky Shooter 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	COURT HAIRSTYLE	COURT WEAKNESS
Derrick Rose	sky hook	wrist bands	left handed	wild afro	slippery floors
Giannis	three pointer	wrist bands	left handed	wild afro	squeaky shoes
Chris Paul	spin move	neon socks	right handed	wild afro	squeaky shoes
Kevin Durant	sky hook	shiny sneakers	left handed	wild afro	loud whistles
Kyrie Irving	sky hook	neon socks	right handed	cool buzzcut	squeaky shoes
Kobe Bryant	spin move	red headband	left handed	wild afro	loud whistles
Allen Iverson	three pointer	gold chain	left handed	cool buzzcut	slippery floors
Stephen Curry	alley oop	gold chain	left handed	wild afro	loud whistles
Damian Lillard	three pointer	wrist bands	right handed	wild afro	squeaky shoes
Magic Johnson	monster dunk	gold chain	right handed	high ponytail	squeaky shoes
Jimmy Butler	spin move	neon socks	left handed	wild afro	squeaky shoes
James Harden	alley oop	gold chain	right handed	wild afro	squeaky shoes
Kawhi Leonard	sky hook	red headband	left handed	cool buzzcut	loud whistles
Yao Ming	three pointer	red headband	right handed	high ponytail	squeaky shoes
Anthony Davis	sky hook	wrist bands	right handed	cool buzzcut	slippery floors
Larry Bird	sky hook	red headband	right handed	wild afro	loud whistles
Reggie Miller	three pointer	shiny sneakers	right handed	cool buzzcut	slippery floors
Steve Nash	sky hook	gold chain	right handed	wild afro	squeaky shoes
Shaquille	three pointer	red headband	right handed	wild afro	squeaky shoes
LeBron James	alley oop	red headband	right handed	high ponytail	squeaky shoes
Michael Jordan	spin move	red headband	left handed	wild afro	squeaky shoes

CLUE 1 Multiplication facts (1-12)

> We find a crate of sports drinks arranged in perfect rows on the court. Let us multiply the rows to count them and get our first clue.

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

T														T									
64	42	45	9	121	45	7	15	30	9	42	2	2	64	45	63	36	2	45	9				
		T									T												
121	2	64	55	45	7	63	55	63	96	9	64	40	7	121	36	9							

8 × 8 = ☐ → T

12 × 3 = ☐ → D

2 × 1 = ☐ → O

7 × 9 = ☐ → R

5 × 11 = ☐ → W

4 × 10 = ☐ → B

6 × 5 = ☐ → Y

9 × 5 = ☐ → E

7 × 6 = ☐ → H

8 × 12 = ☐ → I

3 × 5 = ☐ → K

9 × 1 = ☐ → S

7 × 1 = ☐ → A

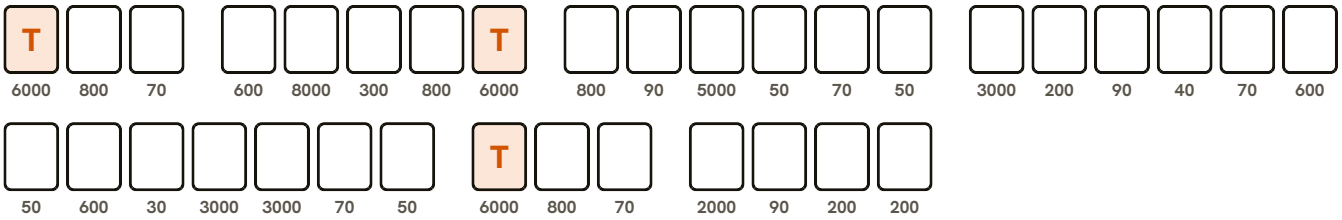
11 × 11 = ☐ → N

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Rounding

> The electronic scoreboard took a hit and now only displays estimated scores. Rounding the numbers will reveal the next clue.

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



Round 6,169 to the nearest thousand ☐ → **T**

Round 29 to the nearest ten ☐ → **O**

Round 819 to the nearest hundred ☐ → **H**

Round 3,330 to the nearest thousand ☐ → **P**

Round 93 to the nearest ten ☐ → **A**

Round 41 to the nearest ten ☐ → **Y**

Round 54 to the nearest ten ☐ → **D**

Round 609 to the nearest hundred ☐ → **R**

Round 339 to the nearest hundred ☐ → **G**

Round 218 to the nearest hundred ☐ → **L**

Round 5,346 to the nearest thousand ☐ → **N**

Round 68 to the nearest ten ☐ → **E**

Round 1,888 to the nearest thousand ☐ → **B**

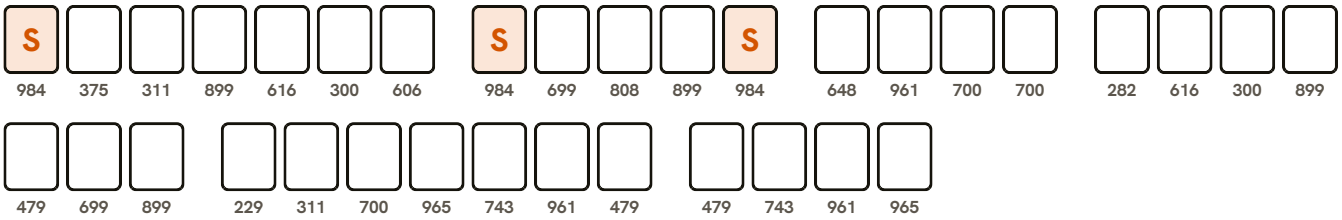
Round 7,871 to the nearest thousand ☐ → **I**

Scratch space:

CLUE 3 Addition

> A stack of basketballs is piled up near the bench. Adding them all together gives us the perfect total for our third clue.

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



605 + 379 = ☐ → S

310 + 169 = ☐ → T

355 + 251 = ☐ → Y

541 + 267 = ☐ → O

269 + 630 = ☐ → E

119 + 192 = ☐ → U

319 + 642 = ☐ → I

355 + 293 = ☐ → W

235 + 381 = ☐ → A

243 + 456 = ☐ → H

246 + 497 = ☐ → R

531 + 434 = ☐ → P

118 + 111 = ☐ → C

200 + 100 = ☐ → K

174 + 201 = ☐ → Q

189 + 93 = ☐ → M

232 + 468 = ☐ → L

Scratch space:

CLUE 4 Subtraction

> The equipment manager notices some high top sneakers are missing from the rack. Subtracting the left behind shoes yields our fourth clue.

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

513 - 102 = ☐ → A

755 - 255 = ☐ → U

648 - 302 = ☐ → D

1019 - 134 = ☐ → N

555 - 389 = ☐ → H

551 - 4 = ☐ → P

380 - 239 = ☐ → E

415 - 141 = ☐ → O

1003 - 127 = ☐ → C

1025 - 307 = ☐ → S

1176 - 323 = ☐ → F

588 - 136 = ☐ → T

981 - 370 = ☐ → K

225 - 57 = ☐ → W

947 - 303 = ☐ → I

526 - 303 = ☐ → R

488 - 127 = ☐ → L

Scratch space:

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

> The coach needs to split the remaining training cones equally among the active drills. Dividing them up gives us our 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:

30 ÷ 5 = ☐	80 ÷ 8 = ☐	8 ÷ 4 = ☐	33 ÷ 3 = ☐	6 ÷ 6 = ☐
9 ÷ 1 = ☐	7 ÷ 1 = ☐	50 ÷ 10 = ☐	36 ÷ 3 = ☐	72 ÷ 9 = ☐
27 ÷ 9 = ☐				

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain dribbled past the guards, then took the team playbook.
2. The villain faked out the security, then stole the game balls.
3. The villain jumped over the turnstile, then grabbed the golden whistle.
4. The villain sneaked into the locker room, then swiped the championship trophy.
5. The villain faked out the security, then swiped the championship trophy.
6. The villain dashed across the court, then grabbed the golden whistle.
7. The villain dashed across the court, then hid the mascot outfit.
8. The villain sneaked into the locker room, then hid the mascot outfit.
9. The villain jumped over the turnstile, then hid the mascot outfit.
10. The villain jumped over the turnstile, then swiped the championship trophy.
11. The villain dribbled past the guards, then grabbed the golden whistle.
12. The villain dashed across the court, then swiped the championship trophy.

TEACHER / PARENT

Answer Key

The Big Court Caper

Culprit: Steve Nash

sky hook · gold chain · right handed · wild afro · squeaky shoes

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 17 → Clue 2 10 → Clue 3 8 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Multiplication facts (1-12)): "THE SNEAKY SHOOTER DOES NOT WEAR WRIST BANDS"

8 × 8 = 64 (T) · 12 × 3 = 36 (D) · 2 × 1 = 2 (O) · 7 × 9 = 63 (R) · 5 × 11 = 55 (W) · 4 × 10 = 40 (B) · 6 × 5 = 30 (Y) · 9 × 5 = 45 (E) · 7 × 6 = 42 (H) · 8 × 12 = 96 (I) · 3 × 5 = 15 (K) · 9 × 1 = 9 (S) · 7 × 1 = 7 (A) · 11 × 11 = 121 (N)

Clue 2 (Rounding): "THE RIGHT HANDED PLAYER DROPPED THE BALL"

Round 6,169 to the nearest thousand = 6000 (T) · Round 29 to the nearest ten = 30 (O) · Round 819 to the nearest hundred = 800 (H) · Round 3,330 to the nearest thousand = 3000 (P) · Round 93 to the nearest ten = 90 (A) · Round 41 to the nearest ten = 40 (Y) · Round 54 to the nearest ten = 50 (D) · Round 609 to the nearest hundred = 600 (R) · Round 339 to the nearest hundred = 300 (G) · Round 218 to the nearest hundred = 200 (L) · Round 5,346 to the nearest thousand = 5000 (N) · Round 68 to the nearest ten = 70 (E) · Round 1,888 to the nearest thousand = 2000 (B) · Round 7,871 to the nearest thousand = 8000 (I)

Clue 3 (Addition): "SQUEAKY SHOES WILL MAKE THE CULPRIT TRIP"

605 + 379 = 984 (S) · 310 + 169 = 479 (T) · 355 + 251 = 606 (Y) · 541 + 267 = 808 (O) · 269 + 630 = 899 (E) · 119 + 192 = 311 (U) · 319 + 642 = 961 (I) · 355 + 293 = 648 (W) · 235 + 381 = 616 (A) · 243 + 456 = 699 (H) · 246 + 497 = 743 (R) · 531 + 434 = 965 (P) · 118 + 111 = 229 (C) · 200 + 100 = 300 (K) · 174 + 201 = 375 (Q) · 189 + 93 = 282 (M) · 232 + 468 = 700 (L)

Clue 4 (Subtraction): "A WILD AFRO HAIR WAS STUCK ON THE HOOP"

513 - 102 = 411 (A) · 755 - 255 = 500 (U) · 648 - 302 = 346 (D) · 1019 - 134 = 885 (N) · 555 - 389 = 166 (H) · 551 - 4 = 547 (P) · 380 - 239 = 141 (E) · 415 - 141 = 274 (O) · 1003 - 127 = 876 (C) · 1025 - 307 = 718 (S) · 1176 - 323 = 853 (F) · 588 - 136 = 452 (T) · 981 - 370 = 611 (K) · 225 - 57 = 168 (W) · 947 - 303 = 644 (I) · 526 - 303 = 223 (R) · 488 - 127 = 361 (L)

Clue 5 (Division facts (1-12)): surviving statement is box 4 → Steve Nash

30 ÷ 5 = 6 · 80 ÷ 8 = 10 · 8 ÷ 4 = 2 · 33 ÷ 3 = 11 · 6 ÷ 6 = 1 · 9 ÷ 1 = 9 · 7 ÷ 1 = 7 · 50 ÷ 10 = 5 · 36 ÷ 3 = 12 · 72 ÷ 9 = 8 · 27 ÷ 9 = 3