



The Case of the Missing Golden Glove

Grade 7 math · Integers, Percentages, Order of operations, Exponents, Two-step equations · Reading level grades 5-6

Detective: _____ Date: _____

Someone has swiped the legendary Golden Glove trophy right out of the display case at Grand Slam Stadium! The big championship game starts in just a few hours. We need to find the thief before they escape the ballpark with our prize.

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 The Stadium Thief is _____

Possible suspects

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

NAME	SIGNATURE PITCH	LUCKY CHARM	BATTING STANCE	HAIR COLOR	FAVORITE SNACK
Nolan Ryan	Changeup	Gold Chain	Right Handed	Black Hair	Sunflower Seeds
Mickey Mantle	Curveball	Dirty Cap	Right Handed	Black Hair	Roasted Peanuts
Ichiro Suzuki	Slider	Dirty Cap	Right Handed	Red Hair	Ballpark Nachos
Reggie Jackson	Fastball	Dirty Cap	Right Handed	Blonde Hair	Roasted Peanuts
Honus Wagner	Curveball	Lucky Bat	Left Handed	Blonde Hair	Roasted Peanuts
Yogi Berra	Fastball	Dirty Cap	Right Handed	Blonde Hair	Ballpark Nachos
Mookie Betts	Fastball	Dirty Cap	Left Handed	Red Hair	Roasted Peanuts
Satchel Paige	Knuckleball	Lucky Bat	Left Handed	Red Hair	Roasted Peanuts
Sandy Koufax	Slider	Pine Tar Jar	Left Handed	Red Hair	Roasted Peanuts
Ken Griffey	Fastball	Gold Chain	Right Handed	Red Hair	Roasted Peanuts
Pedro Martinez	Curveball	Lucky Bat	Left Handed	Black Hair	Roasted Peanuts
Ernie Banks	Slider	Gold Chain	Left Handed	Black Hair	Sunflower Seeds
Jackie Robinson	Knuckleball	Lucky Bat	Right Handed	Red Hair	Roasted Peanuts
Shohei Ohtani	Slider	Dirty Cap	Left Handed	Blonde Hair	Ballpark Nachos
Aaron Judge	Fastball	Autographed Ball	Left Handed	Black Hair	Ballpark Nachos
Willie Mays	Slider	Lucky Bat	Right Handed	Red Hair	Roasted Peanuts
Cy Young	Knuckleball	Autographed Ball	Right Handed	Black Hair	Roasted Peanuts
Cal Ripken	Knuckleball	Autographed Ball	Right Handed	Red Hair	Roasted Peanuts
Lou Gehrig	Changeup	Dirty Cap	Right Handed	Red Hair	Roasted Peanuts
Roberto Clemente	Slider	Dirty Cap	Left Handed	Black Hair	Roasted Peanuts
Mike Trout	Fastball	Pine Tar Jar	Right Handed	Blonde Hair	Roasted Peanuts

CLUE 1 Integers

The bullpen radar gun recorded the change in wind speed during the theft. It went up and down by several units. Let us calculate the final integer value to reveal the first big clue!

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

T			T															
21	3	9	21	3	11	9	29	30	24	9	14	13	24	21	15	9	19	8
19	26	24	25	30	2	3	19	11	13									

$(-5) + 26 = \square \rightarrow \text{[T]}$	$(-5) + 30 = \square \rightarrow \text{[L]}$	$12 - (-12) = \square \rightarrow \text{[O]}$
$(-2) + 15 = \square \rightarrow \text{[N]}$	$(-3) + 14 = \square \rightarrow \text{[I]}$	$18 - (-8) = \square \rightarrow \text{[G]}$
$2 - (-13) = \square \rightarrow \text{[W]}$	$(-14) + 28 = \square \rightarrow \text{[S]}$	$1 - (-7) = \square \rightarrow \text{[R]}$
$(-12) + 14 = \square \rightarrow \text{[C]}$	$(-8) + 38 = \square \rightarrow \text{[D]}$	$(-11) + 14 = \square \rightarrow \text{[H]}$
$17 - (-12) = \square \rightarrow \text{[F]}$	$(-3) + 22 = \square \rightarrow \text{[A]}$	$(-1) + 10 = \square \rightarrow \text{[E]}$

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Percentages

The stadium scoreboard was flashing broken team batting averages as percentages. We need to find the correct decimal fraction to unlock the next piece of evidence.

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

T										T									
33	28	1	30	38	30	9	1	26	33	31	20	5	33	1	30	25	23	48	34

		T		T						T					
31	5	33	28	33	28	1	20	5	55	28	33	28	21	23	15

60% of 55 = → T	20% of 155 = → W	10% of 200 = → R
50% of 2 = → E	50% of 10 = → I	25% of 120 = → S
5% of 560 = → H	25% of 192 = → L	5% of 180 = → P
25% of 152 = → U	25% of 220 = → G	10% of 250 = → O
25% of 92 = → N	60% of 35 = → A	50% of 30 = → D
10% of 260 = → C	50% of 68 = → Y	

Scratch space:

CLUE 3
Order of operations

We found a scrap of paper in the dugout with a long math equation of runs, hits, and errors. We must solve the operations in the exact right order to crack the code.

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

W																	
68	93	80	106	70	114	46	35	93	50	114	70	16	102	100	93	78	102
50	16	16	100	93	108	33	48	90	93	102	108	93	114	93			

$10 \times 9 - 22 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{W}}$

$9 \times 5 - 12 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{R}}$

$4 \times 9 - 1 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{P}}$

$6 \times 12 - 22 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{A}}$

$8 \times 8 - 16 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{I}}$

$32 + 8 \times 6 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{F}}$

$11 \times 7 - 7 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{U}}$

$10 \times 11 - 4 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{O}}$

$10 \times 12 - 6 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{N}}$

$30 + 8 \times 9 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{S}}$

$12 \times 9 - 8 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{H}}$

$42 + 8 \times 6 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{M}}$

$11 \times 10 - 17 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{E}}$

$8 \times 5 - 24 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{T}}$

$45 + 9 \times 7 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{C}}$

$50 + 7 \times 4 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{L}}$

$10 \times 6 - 14 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{D}}$

Scratch space:

CLUE 4 Exponents

The stadium lights are controlled by a power grid that multiplies exponentially. Calculating the total wattage power of the lights points us to a clue left in the dark.

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

W																
25	27	343	121	243	216	16	32	289	144	196	64	169	361	144	27	16
128	361	144	32	216	16	196	216	361	169	27	169	27	81	4	27	361

$5^2 = \square \rightarrow$ W	$17^2 = \square \rightarrow$ B	$2^7 = \square \rightarrow$ S	$11^2 = \square \rightarrow$ O
$14^2 = \square \rightarrow$ I	$2^4 = \square \rightarrow$ D	$3^3 = \square \rightarrow$ E	$3^4 = \square \rightarrow$ L
$2^2 = \square \rightarrow$ M	$4^3 = \square \rightarrow$ G	$6^3 = \square \rightarrow$ N	$7^3 = \square \rightarrow$ F
$13^2 = \square \rightarrow$ H	$3^5 = \square \rightarrow$ U	$12^2 = \square \rightarrow$ R	$19^2 = \square \rightarrow$ T
$2^5 = \square \rightarrow$ A			

Scratch space:

CLUE 5**Two-step equations - the last clue**

The concession stand manager has a puzzle. They sold a batch of baseballs for a set price, minus a discount, ending with a final balance. Solve this equation to find 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:

$6x + 4 = 52, x = \boxed{}$

$6x + 2 = 44, x = \boxed{}$

$4x + 10 = 54, x = \boxed{}$

$6x + 5 = 11, x = \boxed{}$

$5x + 1 = 26, x = \boxed{}$

$3x + 7 = 25, x = \boxed{}$

$4x + 3 = 43, x = \boxed{}$

$3x + 11 = 38, x = \boxed{}$

$6x + 9 = 27, x = \boxed{}$

$6x + 7 = 31, x = \boxed{}$

$3x + 3 = 9, x = \boxed{}$

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain hurls a ninety mile per hour fastball, then smears sticky pine tar on the locker.
2. The villain slides a perfect curveball, then smears sticky pine tar on the locker.
3. The villain throws a tricky knuckleball, then smears sticky pine tar on the locker.
4. The villain slides a perfect curveball, then polishes a shiny gold chain.
5. The villain slides a perfect curveball, then tugs on a lucky dirty cap.
6. The villain throws a tricky knuckleball, then tugs on a lucky dirty cap.
7. The villain throws a tricky knuckleball, then swings a custom maple bat.
8. The villain slides a perfect curveball, then swings a custom maple bat.
9. The villain hurls a ninety mile per hour fastball, then polishes a shiny gold chain.
10. The villain pitches a sneaky changeup, then smears sticky pine tar on the locker.
11. The villain launches a sharp breaking slider, then tugs on a lucky dirty cap.
12. The villain throws a tricky knuckleball, then clutches a signed babe ruth ball.

Answer Key

The Case of the Missing Golden Glove

Culprit: Cal Ripken

Knuckleball · Autographed Ball · Right Handed · Red Hair · Roasted Peanuts

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 18 → Clue 2 10 → Clue 3 8 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Integers): "THE THIEF DOES NOT WEAR A GOLD CHAIN"

$(-5) + 26 = 21$ (T) · $(-5) + 30 = 25$ (L) · $12 - (-12) = 24$ (O) · $(-2) + 15 = 13$ (N) · $(-3) + 14 = 11$ (I) · $18 - (-8) = 26$ (G) · $2 - (-13) = 15$ (W) · $(-14) + 28 = 14$ (S) · $1 - (-7) = 8$ (R) · $(-12) + 14 = 2$ (C) · $(-8) + 38 = 30$ (D) · $(-11) + 14 = 3$ (H) · $17 - (-12) = 29$ (F) · $(-3) + 22 = 19$ (A) · $(-1) + 10 = 9$ (E)

Clue 2 (Percentages): "THE SUSPECT WRITES ONLY WITH THE RIGHT HAND"

60% of 55 = 33 (T) · 20% of 155 = 31 (W) · 10% of 200 = 20 (R) · 50% of 2 = 1 (E) · 50% of 10 = 5 (I) · 25% of 120 = 30 (S) · 5% of 560 = 28 (H) · 25% of 192 = 48 (L) · 5% of 180 = 9 (P) · 25% of 152 = 38 (U) · 25% of 220 = 55 (G) · 10% of 250 = 25 (O) · 25% of 92 = 23 (N) · 60% of 35 = 21 (A) · 50% of 30 = 15 (D) · 10% of 260 = 26 (C) · 50% of 68 = 34 (Y)

Clue 3 (Order of operations): "WE FOUND PEANUT SHELLS AT THE CRIME SCENE"

$10 \times 9 - 22 = 68$ (W) · $9 \times 5 - 12 = 33$ (R) · $4 \times 9 - 1 = 35$ (P) · $6 \times 12 - 22 = 50$ (A) · $8 \times 8 - 16 = 48$ (I) · $32 + 8 \times 6 = 80$ (F) · $11 \times 7 - 7 = 70$ (U) · $10 \times 11 - 4 = 106$ (O) · $10 \times 12 - 6 = 114$ (N) · $30 + 8 \times 9 = 102$ (S) · $12 \times 9 - 8 = 100$ (H) · $42 + 8 \times 6 = 90$ (M) · $11 \times 10 - 17 = 93$ (E) · $8 \times 5 - 24 = 16$ (T) · $45 + 9 \times 7 = 108$ (C) · $50 + 7 \times 4 = 78$ (L) · $10 \times 6 - 14 = 46$ (D)

Clue 4 (Exponents): "WE FOUND A BRIGHT RED STRAND IN THE HELMET"

$5^2 = 25$ (W) · $17^2 = 289$ (B) · $2^7 = 128$ (S) · $11^2 = 121$ (O) · $14^2 = 196$ (I) · $2^4 = 16$ (D) · $3^3 = 27$ (E) · $3^4 = 81$ (L) · $2^2 = 4$ (M) · $4^3 = 64$ (G) · $6^3 = 216$ (N) · $7^3 = 343$ (F) · $13^2 = 169$ (H) · $3^5 = 243$ (U) · $12^2 = 144$ (R) · $19^2 = 361$ (T) · $2^5 = 32$ (A)

Clue 5 (Two-step equations): surviving statement is box 12 → Cal Ripken

$6x + 4 = 52, x = 8$ · $6x + 2 = 44, x = 7$ · $4x + 10 = 54, x = 11$ · $6x + 5 = 11, x = 1$ · $5x + 1 = 26, x = 5$ · $3x + 7 = 25, x = 6$ · $4x + 3 = 43, x = 10$ · $3x + 11 = 38, x = 9$ · $6x + 9 = 27, x = 3$ · $6x + 7 = 31, x = 4$ · $3x + 3 = 9, x = 2$