



The Case of the Missing Milk

Grade 3 math · Rounding, Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication, Division · Reading level grades 1-2

Detective: _____ Date: _____

The Milk Chef lost his gold milk bowl. A sneaky cat took it. We must find them.

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 cat is _____

Possible suspects

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

NAME	SUPER SKILL	SPECIAL GEAR	COLLAR STATUS	FUR COLOR	WEAKNESS
Oreo	high jump	laser pointer blast	no collar	black fur	tricked by tuna fish
Figaro	silent crawl	cardboard box armor	wearing a collar	black fur	tricked by tuna fish
Simba	silent crawl	catnip smoke screen	wearing a collar	calico fur	scared of water spray
Bella	super pounce	feather wand trick	no collar	orange fur	tricked by tuna fish
Sylvester	silent crawl	laser pointer blast	wearing a collar	black fur	scared of water spray
Oliver	super pounce	yarn ball shield	no collar	black fur	tricked by tuna fish
Socks	super pounce	feather wand trick	no collar	calico fur	scared of water spray
Berlioz	fast run	feather wand trick	no collar	black fur	scared of water spray
Hobbes	mega meow	yarn ball shield	no collar	orange fur	tricked by tuna fish
Nala	super pounce	cardboard box armor	wearing a collar	black fur	distracted by red dot
Felix	high jump	cardboard box armor	no collar	black fur	scared of water spray
Toulouse	high jump	cardboard box armor	no collar	calico fur	scared of water spray
Milo	super pounce	catnip smoke screen	wearing a collar	calico fur	scared of water spray
Mittens	super pounce	feather wand trick	no collar	black fur	scared of water spray
Chloe	mega meow	feather wand trick	wearing a collar	calico fur	scared of water spray
Salem	high jump	catnip smoke screen	wearing a collar	calico fur	scared of water spray
Whiskers	fast run	cardboard box armor	wearing a collar	calico fur	scared of water spray
Cleo	fast run	feather wand trick	no collar	orange fur	tricked by tuna fish
Tom	fast run	yarn ball shield	no collar	black fur	tricked by tuna fish
Duchess	super pounce	cardboard box armor	no collar	black fur	tricked by tuna fish
Boots	super pounce	catnip smoke screen	wearing a collar	calico fur	distracted by red dot

CLUE 1 Rounding

The heat radar is fuzzy. It only shows rounded numbers. We found a clue on the radar.

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

T																	
200	70	700	2000	80	700	5000	40	9000	800	5000	200	70	5000	2000	80	900	
800	5000	4000	600	30	900	5000	4000	600	30	900	7000	5000	4000	60	900	4000	

Round 154 to the nearest hundred → **T**

Round 4,132 to the nearest thousand → **R**

Round 26 to the nearest ten → **B**

Round 8,921 to the nearest thousand → **Y**

Round 64 to the nearest ten → **M**

Round 860 to the nearest hundred → **O**

Round 557 to the nearest hundred → **D**

Round 765 to the nearest hundred → **C**

Round 1,828 to the nearest thousand → **S**

Round 42 to the nearest ten → **K**

Round 5,282 to the nearest thousand → **A**

Round 71 to the nearest ten → **H**

Round 724 to the nearest hundred → **E**

Round 83 to the nearest ten → **N**

Round 6,886 to the nearest thousand → **X**

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Addition

We found toy mice on the floor. Let us add them together to find the next clue.

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

T															
222	220	446	357	260	446	513	730	713	475	513	222	474	513	357	

474	446	513	549	986	260	319	513	475	315	627	627	513	549	

$137 + 85 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{T}}$

$148 + 72 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{H}}$

$311 + 402 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{Y}}$

$351 + 635 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{I}}$

$109 + 206 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{O}}$

$122 + 138 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{N}}$

$123 + 234 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{S}}$

$251 + 195 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{E}}$

$300 + 430 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{K}}$

$219 + 255 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{W}}$

$296 + 179 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{C}}$

$285 + 228 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{A}}$

$258 + 291 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{R}}$

$290 + 337 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{L}}$

$162 + 157 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{G}}$

Scratch space:

CLUE 3

Subtraction

The milk bowls are missing. We must subtract the bad milk to see the clue.

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

T					T										
111	576	864	480	879	111	506	458	458	480	879	417	864	465	766	637

		T								
324	879	111	864	417	458	715	417	879	170	

$387 - 276 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{T}}$

$673 - 193 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{C}}$

$683 - 359 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{W}}$

$1123 - 244 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{A}}$

$629 - 171 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{S}}$

$1120 - 354 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{O}}$

$525 - 355 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{Y}}$

$991 - 127 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{E}}$

$930 - 215 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{P}}$

$780 - 143 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{F}}$

$656 - 150 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{I}}$

$756 - 339 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{R}}$

$612 - 36 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{H}}$

$538 - 73 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{D}}$

Scratch space:

CLUE 4

Multiplication facts (1-12)

There are rows of scratching posts. Multiply the rows to find the secret path.

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

W																
100	9	60	5	144	15	64	27	10	108	35	27	5	60	144	44	35 15
49	90	9	40	5	6											

$10 \times 10 = \square \rightarrow \text{W}$

$5 \times 3 = \square \rightarrow \text{N}$

$4 \times 10 = \square \rightarrow \text{B}$

$12 \times 9 = \square \rightarrow \text{L}$

$1 \times 6 = \square \rightarrow \text{X}$

$6 \times 10 = \square \rightarrow \text{F}$

$4 \times 11 = \square \rightarrow \text{R}$

$5 \times 1 = \square \rightarrow \text{O}$

$10 \times 1 = \square \rightarrow \text{A}$

$3 \times 9 = \square \rightarrow \text{C}$

$10 \times 9 = \square \rightarrow \text{H}$

$9 \times 1 = \square \rightarrow \text{E}$

$12 \times 12 = \square \rightarrow \text{U}$

$8 \times 8 = \square \rightarrow \text{D}$

$5 \times 7 = \square \rightarrow \text{I}$

$7 \times 7 = \square \rightarrow \text{T}$

Scratch space:

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

We have treats to share. Split the fish treats into equal groups for 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:

$6 \div 6 = \boxed{}$

$144 \div 12 = \boxed{}$

$4 \div 2 = \boxed{}$

$99 \div 9 = \boxed{}$

$54 \div 6 = \boxed{}$

$6 \div 2 = \boxed{}$

$10 \div 2 = \boxed{}$

$4 \div 1 = \boxed{}$

$72 \div 12 = \boxed{}$

$20 \div 2 = \boxed{}$

$49 \div 7 = \boxed{}$

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain lets out a mega meow, then does a feather wand trick.
2. The villain does a high jump, then makes a catnip smoke screen.
3. The villain does a high jump, then uses a yarn ball shield.
4. The villain does a fast run, then puts on cardboard box armor.
5. The villain does a fast run, then fires a laser pointer blast.
6. The villain does a super pounce, then uses a yarn ball shield.
7. The villain does a fast run, then uses a yarn ball shield.
8. The villain does a super pounce, then makes a catnip smoke screen.
9. The villain does a high jump, then fires a laser pointer blast.
10. The villain does a fast run, then does a feather wand trick.
11. The villain does a super pounce, then does a feather wand trick.
12. The villain performs a silent crawl, then makes a catnip smoke screen.

Answer Key

The Case of the Missing Milk

Culprit: Milo

super pounce · catnip smoke screen · wearing a collar · calico fur · scared of water spray

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 15 → Clue 2 6 → Clue 3 5 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Rounding): "THE SNEAKY CAT HAS NO CARDBOARD BOX ARMOR"

Round 154 to the nearest hundred = 200 (T) · Round 4,132 to the nearest thousand = 4000 (R) · Round 26 to the nearest ten = 30 (B) · Round 8,921 to the nearest thousand = 9000 (Y) · Round 64 to the nearest ten = 60 (M) · Round 860 to the nearest hundred = 900 (O) · Round 557 to the nearest hundred = 600 (D) · Round 765 to the nearest hundred = 800 (C) · Round 1,828 to the nearest thousand = 2000 (S) · Round 42 to the nearest ten = 40 (K) · Round 5,282 to the nearest thousand = 5000 (A) · Round 71 to the nearest ten = 70 (H) · Round 724 to the nearest hundred = 700 (E) · Round 83 to the nearest ten = 80 (N) · Round 6,886 to the nearest thousand = 7000 (X)

Clue 2 (Addition): "THE SNEAKY CAT WAS WEARING A COLLAR"

$137 + 85 = 222$ (T) · $148 + 72 = 220$ (H) · $311 + 402 = 713$ (Y) · $351 + 635 = 986$ (I) · $109 + 206 = 315$ (O) · $122 + 138 = 260$ (N) · $123 + 234 = 357$ (S) · $251 + 195 = 446$ (E) · $300 + 430 = 730$ (K) · $219 + 255 = 474$ (W) · $296 + 179 = 475$ (C) · $285 + 228 = 513$ (A) · $258 + 291 = 549$ (R) · $290 + 337 = 627$ (L) · $162 + 157 = 319$ (G)

Clue 3 (Subtraction): "THE CAT IS SCARED OF WATER SPRAY"

$387 - 276 = 111$ (T) · $673 - 193 = 480$ (C) · $683 - 359 = 324$ (W) · $1123 - 244 = 879$ (A) · $629 - 171 = 458$ (S) · $1120 - 354 = 766$ (O) · $525 - 355 = 170$ (Y) · $991 - 127 = 864$ (E) · $930 - 215 = 715$ (P) · $780 - 143 = 637$ (F) · $656 - 150 = 506$ (I) · $756 - 339 = 417$ (R) · $612 - 36 = 576$ (H) · $538 - 73 = 465$ (D)

Clue 4 (Multiplication facts (1-12)): "WE FOUND CALICO FUR IN THE BOX"

$10 \times 10 = 100$ (W) · $5 \times 3 = 15$ (N) · $4 \times 10 = 40$ (B) · $12 \times 9 = 108$ (L) · $1 \times 6 = 6$ (X) · $6 \times 10 = 60$ (F) · $4 \times 11 = 44$ (R) · $5 \times 1 = 5$ (O) · $10 \times 1 = 10$ (A) · $3 \times 9 = 27$ (C) · $10 \times 9 = 90$ (H) · $9 \times 1 = 9$ (E) · $12 \times 12 = 144$ (U) · $8 \times 8 = 64$ (D) · $5 \times 7 = 35$ (I) · $7 \times 7 = 49$ (T)

Clue 5 (Division facts (1-12)): surviving statement is box 8 → Milo

$6 \div 6 = 1$ · $144 \div 12 = 12$ · $4 \div 2 = 2$ · $99 \div 9 = 11$ · $54 \div 6 = 9$ · $6 \div 2 = 3$ · $10 \div 2 = 5$ · $4 \div 1 = 4$ · $72 \div 12 = 6$ · $20 \div 2 = 10$ · $49 \div 7 = 7$