



The Dinosaur Basketball Championship Caper

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

Detective: _____ Date: _____

The big game was about to start when the Golden Dino Trophy vanished! The Raptor Ridge Rockets cannot play without their prized trophy. Help us find which dinosaur player took it!

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 court crasher is _____

Possible suspects

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

NAME	DINO MOVE	SPECIAL GEAR	SHOOTING HAND	DINO COAT	SECRET WEAKNESS
LeBron Rex	ankylosaurus screen	golden whistle	right-handed shooter	green scales	needs snack breaks
Barney Barkley	stegosaurus block	golden whistle	right-handed shooter	blue spikes	afraid of whistles
Rex Westbrook	triceratops drive	super-spring socks	right-handed shooter	orange feathers	needs snack breaks
Spino-Spida Mitchell	triceratops drive	spike-tipped kneepads	left-handed shooter	orange feathers	needs snack breaks
Tricera-Trae Young	stegosaurus block	golden whistle	left-handed shooter	blue spikes	slips on sweat
Kawhi Claw-ard	triceratops drive	lava-proof sneakers	right-handed shooter	green scales	needs snack breaks
Tricera-Paul	raptor crossover	golden whistle	left-handed shooter	orange feathers	slips on sweat
Raptor Rose	triceratops drive	glow-in-the-dark ball	right-handed shooter	green scales	needs snack breaks
Luka Dino-cic	stegosaurus block	golden whistle	right-handed shooter	orange feathers	afraid of whistles
Rex Miller	stegosaurus block	glow-in-the-dark ball	right-handed shooter	blue spikes	slips on sweat
Shaq-o-saurus	raptor crossover	lava-proof sneakers	right-handed shooter	blue spikes	needs snack breaks
Nikola Jokic-saurus	triceratops drive	glow-in-the-dark ball	right-handed shooter	green scales	slips on sweat
Dirk Dino-witzki	triceratops drive	lava-proof sneakers	left-handed shooter	blue spikes	afraid of whistles
Giannis Anteto-raptor	stegosaurus block	super-spring socks	left-handed shooter	green scales	needs snack breaks
Claw Thompson	pterodactyl dunk	super-spring socks	right-handed shooter	green scales	needs snack breaks
Yao Raptor	pterodactyl dunk	lava-proof sneakers	right-handed shooter	orange feathers	slips on sweat
Steg Curry	raptor crossover	lava-proof sneakers	right-handed shooter	green scales	needs snack breaks
Larry Bird-feathers	pterodactyl dunk	super-spring socks	right-handed shooter	blue spikes	needs snack breaks
Dino Curry	triceratops drive	super-spring socks	right-handed shooter	blue spikes	slips on sweat
Dino Rodman	pterodactyl dunk	golden whistle	left-handed shooter	green scales	afraid of whistles
Kobe Bryant-saurus	stegosaurus block	super-spring socks	right-handed shooter	blue spikes	needs snack breaks

CLUE 1 Place value

We looked at the giant arena scoreboard. The digit in the tens place on the home team score was flashing. This clue tells us about the thief's gear.

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

T								T					
60	80	400	300	7000	900	600	900	60	80	20	100	400	20

									T			
30	900	3000	7000	400	600	90	80	2000	500	60	3000	400

What is the value of the 6 in 163? → **T**

What is the value of the 9 in 973? → **O**

What is the value of the 7 in 7,506? → **D**

What is the value of the 9 in 6,691? → **W**

What is the value of the 6 in 690? → **N**

What is the value of the 4 in 1,488? → **E**

What is the value of the 3 in 839? → **G**

What is the value of the 3 in 3,465? → **L**

What is the value of the 2 in 42,186? → **I**

What is the value of the 8 in 7,186? → **H**

What is the value of the 5 in 7,544? → **S**

What is the value of the 2 in 520? → **A**

What is the value of the 1 in 4,162? → **V**

What is the value of the 3 in 366? → **Y**

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Addition

The referee counted all the extra basketballs rolled onto the court. We added up the balls from each rack to find the next clue about how the thief shoots.

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

T										T						T													
621	835	542		481	843	886	836	653	299	621		401	835	420	420	621	401		619	299	621	835							

T										T																			
621	835	542	299	653		653	299	326	835	621		835	345	568	919														

$358 + 263 = \square \rightarrow$ T	$146 + 180 = \square \rightarrow$ G	$203 + 278 = \square \rightarrow$ C
$124 + 221 = \square \rightarrow$ A	$227 + 193 = \square \rightarrow$ O	$579 + 307 = \square \rightarrow$ L
$356 + 297 = \square \rightarrow$ R	$419 + 416 = \square \rightarrow$ H	$228 + 391 = \square \rightarrow$ W
$465 + 454 = \square \rightarrow$ D	$354 + 489 = \square \rightarrow$ U	$243 + 158 = \square \rightarrow$ S
$184 + 384 = \square \rightarrow$ N	$245 + 297 = \square \rightarrow$ E	$321 + 515 = \square \rightarrow$ P
$136 + 163 = \square \rightarrow$ I		

Scratch space:

CLUE 3

The team compared their total championship rings to the dino-league record. We subtracted the smaller number to find the difference and unlock a clue about their scales or feathers.

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

727 342 497 617 104 617 516 497 694 727 617 727 474 516 617 727 474 497 541 727 541 140 104 783 694 810 617 150 541 694 810

$773 - 46 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{T}}$

$776 - 279 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{E}}$

$368 - 218 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{N}}$

$771 - 230 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\mathbf{A}}$

$$871 - 254 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{S}}$$

$830 - 136 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{C}}$

855 - 381 = →

$$347 - 243 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{U}}$$

$$205 - 65 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{Q}}$$

$483 - 141 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{H}}$

$1117 - 307 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{K}}$

$873 - 357 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{P}}$

$1017 - 234 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{I}}$

Scratch space:

CLUE 4

Multiplication facts (1-12)

We saw rows of dino-sneakers lined up in the locker room. By multiplying the rows of shoes, we calculated the total amount and found a clue about what scares the thief.

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

S										S					S				
32	4	99	24	132	5	99	99	25	32	27	72	40	99	32	77	99	5	99	
11	10	8	25	24	25	99	72	5	55	4	99	4	10	10	110				

$8 \times 4 = \square \rightarrow \text{S}$

$2 \times 2 = \square \rightarrow \text{H}$

$2 \times 4 = \square \rightarrow \text{U}$

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

$11 \times 12 = \square \rightarrow \text{G}$

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

$6 \times 4 = \square \rightarrow \text{D}$

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

$9 \times 11 = \square \rightarrow \text{E}$

$7 \times 11 = \square \rightarrow \text{W}$

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

$11 \times 10 = \square \rightarrow \text{P}$

$8 \times 5 = \square \rightarrow \text{L}$

$1 \times 11 = \square \rightarrow \text{F}$

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

$11 \times 5 = \square \rightarrow \text{T}$

Scratch space:

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

The coaches shared a big box of sports drinks equally among the players. We divided the bottles to see how many each dino got and revealed 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:

$20 \div 5 = \boxed{}$

$7 \div 1 = \boxed{}$

$2 \div 2 = \boxed{}$

$48 \div 8 = \boxed{}$

$33 \div 11 = \boxed{}$

$30 \div 3 = \boxed{}$

$9 \div 1 = \boxed{}$

$25 \div 5 = \boxed{}$

$144 \div 12 = \boxed{}$

$24 \div 12 = \boxed{}$

$72 \div 9 = \boxed{}$

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain barrels through with a triceratops drive, then runs fast in lava-proof sneakers.
2. The villain sets a solid ankylosaurus screen, then runs fast in lava-proof sneakers.
3. The villain flies up for a pterodactyl dunk, then lights the court with a glow ball.
4. The villain barrels through with a triceratops drive, then lights the court with a glow ball.
5. The villain swats the ball with a stegosaurus block, then lights the court with a glow ball.
6. The villain flies up for a pterodactyl dunk, then runs fast in lava-proof sneakers.
7. The villain flies up for a pterodactyl dunk, then leaps high with super-spring socks.
8. The villain flies up for a pterodactyl dunk, then calls a fake foul with a golden whistle.
9. The villain does a swift raptor crossover, then calls a fake foul with a golden whistle.
10. The villain swats the ball with a stegosaurus block, then leaps high with super-spring socks.
11. The villain does a swift raptor crossover, then runs fast in lava-proof sneakers.
12. The villain swats the ball with a stegosaurus block, then runs fast in lava-proof sneakers.

Answer Key

The Dinosaur Basketball Championship Caper

Culprit: Steg Curry

raptor crossover · lava-proof sneakers · right-handed shooter · green scales · needs snack breaks

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 15 → Clue 2 12 → Clue 3 8 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Place value): "THEY DO NOT HAVE A GOLDEN WHISTLE"

What is the value of the 6 in 163? = 60 (T) · What is the value of the 9 in 973? = 900 (O) · What is the value of the 7 in 7,506? = 7000 (D) · What is the value of the 9 in 6,691? = 90 (W) · What is the value of the 6 in 690? = 600 (N) · What is the value of the 4 in 1,488? = 400 (E) · What is the value of the 3 in 839? = 30 (G) · What is the value of the 3 in 3,465? = 3000 (L) · What is the value of the 2 in 42,186? = 2000 (I) · What is the value of the 8 in 7,186? = 80 (H) · What is the value of the 5 in 7,544? = 500 (S) · What is the value of the 2 in 520? = 20 (A) · What is the value of the 1 in 4,162? = 100 (V) · What is the value of the 3 in 366? = 300 (Y)

Clue 2 (Addition): "THE CULPRIT SHOOTS WITH THEIR RIGHT HAND"

$358 + 263 = 621$ (T) · $146 + 180 = 326$ (G) · $203 + 278 = 481$ (C) · $124 + 221 = 345$ (A) · $227 + 193 = 420$ (O) · $579 + 307 = 886$ (L) · $356 + 297 = 653$ (R) · $419 + 416 = 835$ (H) · $228 + 391 = 619$ (W) · $465 + 454 = 919$ (D) · $354 + 489 = 843$ (U) · $243 + 158 = 401$ (S) · $184 + 384 = 568$ (N) · $245 + 297 = 542$ (E) · $321 + 515 = 836$ (P) · $136 + 163 = 299$ (I)

Clue 3 (Subtraction): "THE SUSPECT STOPS TO EAT A QUICK SNACK"

$773 - 46 = 727$ (T) · $776 - 279 = 497$ (E) · $368 - 218 = 150$ (N) · $771 - 230 = 541$ (A) · $871 - 254 = 617$ (S) · $830 - 136 = 694$ (C) · $855 - 381 = 474$ (O) · $347 - 243 = 104$ (U) · $205 - 65 = 140$ (Q) · $483 - 141 = 342$ (H) · $1117 - 307 = 810$ (K) · $873 - 357 = 516$ (P) · $1017 - 234 = 783$ (I)

Clue 4 (Multiplication facts (1-12)): "SHED GREEN SCALES WERE FOUND NEAR THE HOOP"

$8 \times 4 = 32$ (S) · $2 \times 2 = 4$ (H) · $2 \times 4 = 8$ (U) · $9 \times 3 = 27$ (C) · $11 \times 12 = 132$ (G) · $10 \times 1 = 10$ (O) · $6 \times 4 = 24$ (D) · $5 \times 5 = 25$ (N) · $9 \times 11 = 99$ (E) · $7 \times 11 = 77$ (W) · $1 \times 5 = 5$ (R) · $11 \times 10 = 110$ (P) · $8 \times 5 = 40$ (L) · $1 \times 11 = 11$ (F) · $6 \times 12 = 72$ (A) · $11 \times 5 = 55$ (T)

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

$20 \div 5 = 4$ · $7 \div 1 = 7$ · $2 \div 2 = 1$ · $48 \div 8 = 6$ · $33 \div 11 = 3$ · $30 \div 3 = 10$ · $9 \div 1 = 9$ · $25 \div 5 = 5$ · $144 \div 12 = 12$ · $24 \div 12 = 2$ · $72 \div 9 = 8$