



The Golden Banana Mystery

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

Detective: _____ Date: _____

Someone has stolen the sacred Golden Banana from the high canopy temple! The deep jungle is full of crafty travelers. We must follow the trails and solve the puzzles to find the bandit before they escape into the thick green wild.

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 jungle bandit is _____

Possible suspects

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

NAME	JUNGLE SKILL	CLIMBING GEAR	FOOTPRINT TYPE	HAIR COLOR	ALLERGY
Explorer Emma	animal calling	spring boots	right footed boot	moss green hair	fuzzy caterpillars
River Robbie	canopy gliding	sticky gloves	left footed boot	moss green hair	fuzzy caterpillars
Adventurer Alice	swamp wading	sticky gloves	right footed boot	muddy brown hair	tickly ferns
Bindi Jungle	vine swinging	rope lasso	right footed boot	muddy brown hair	fuzzy caterpillars
Jaguar Jack	canopy gliding	spring boots	right footed boot	moss green hair	tickly ferns
Monkey Mike	river rafting	grappling hook	left footed boot	moss green hair	sneeze pollen
Mango Mia	canopy gliding	grappling hook	right footed boot	moss green hair	sneeze pollen
Parrot Paige	river rafting	rope lasso	right footed boot	muddy brown hair	tickly ferns
Ranger Rick	vine swinging	sticky gloves	right footed boot	muddy brown hair	tickly ferns
Fern Fiona	animal calling	sticky gloves	right footed boot	muddy brown hair	tickly ferns
Vine Victor	animal calling	sticky gloves	left footed boot	bright orchid hair	fuzzy caterpillars
Orchid Olivia	canopy gliding	sticky gloves	left footed boot	muddy brown hair	sneeze pollen
Tracker Tom	swamp wading	spring boots	left footed boot	muddy brown hair	sneeze pollen
Canopy Clara	vine swinging	bamboo snorkel	right footed boot	muddy brown hair	tickly ferns
Leopard Leo	river rafting	sticky gloves	right footed boot	muddy brown hair	sneeze pollen
Bamboo Ben	animal calling	grappling hook	right footed boot	moss green hair	tickly ferns
Tiger Tyler	river rafting	sticky gloves	left footed boot	muddy brown hair	tickly ferns
Python Pete	river rafting	rope lasso	left footed boot	moss green hair	fuzzy caterpillars
Dino Dan	swamp wading	rope lasso	left footed boot	moss green hair	tickly ferns
Safari Sam	swamp wading	sticky gloves	left footed boot	muddy brown hair	tickly ferns
Coco Cole	animal calling	grappling hook	left footed boot	bright orchid hair	sneeze pollen

CLUE 1 Addition

To count the total footprints near the riverbank, we had to add the tracks from both paths together.

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

T								T											
2443	3138	5139	3220	8083	6469	6336	8476	2443	6336	8079	5139	5336	6469	8079	2443	4200	5336	5139	

8083	3220	8083	5739	3220	8079	8079	5336	6469	8079	5635	4510	5139	6415

1579 + 864 = → T	2021 + 1199 = → B	2622 + 1888 = → K
3105 + 2034 = → E	3422 + 5054 = → I	1068 + 2070 = → H
2800 + 2939 = → M	1782 + 2418 = → U	2994 + 2641 = → R
4409 + 2006 = → L	4102 + 3981 = → A	2813 + 2523 = → S
2120 + 4349 = → N	4209 + 3870 = → O	2129 + 4207 = → D

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Subtraction

We found some stolen papayas, but many were missing. Subtracting the left-behind fruit from the total gave us a clue.

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

T 5824	3952	5482	4272	1628	1628	T 5824	5237	7720	5231	8812	T 5824	5317	6560	5482	2276	8812	T 5824	1628
T 5824	3952	5482	7720	5231	1633	3952	T 5824											

$7219 - 1395 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{T}}$	$6001 - 4368 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{G}}$	$7922 - 202 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{R}}$
$7514 - 2197 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{S}}$	$6907 - 2955 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{H}}$	$12286 - 3474 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{N}}$
$5445 - 1173 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{F}}$	$8643 - 3406 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{P}}$	$4772 - 2496 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{A}}$
$9470 - 3988 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{E}}$	$7304 - 2073 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{I}}$	$6639 - 79 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{L}}$
$6135 - 4507 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{O}}$		

Scratch space:

CLUE 3 Place value

The ancient jungle temple lock has numbers in the tens and hundreds places. We cracked the code to open the gate.

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

T								T							T					
40	800	3000	2000	6000	80	900	300	40	90	800	20	80	90	40	300	4000	500	10	9000	
5000	3000	50	80	90																

What is the value of the 4 in 649? → **T**

What is the value of the 9 in 2,590? → **S**

What is the value of the 3 in 3,146? → **E**

What is the value of the 1 in 5,817? → **L**

What is the value of the 9 in 39,605? → **Y**

What is the value of the 8 in 866? → **H**

What is the value of the 8 in 686? → **N**

What is the value of the 4 in 4,915? → **C**

What is the value of the 3 in 317? → **I**

What is the value of the 2 in 12,470? → **B**

What is the value of the 5 in 95,470? → **F**

What is the value of the 5 in 2,851? → **R**

What is the value of the 6 in 6,939? → **A**

What is the value of the 2 in 126? → **U**

What is the value of the 5 in 532? → **K**

What is the value of the 9 in 960? → **D**

Scratch space:

CLUE 4
Multiplication facts (1-12)

We saw three rows of broken branches, with the exact same number of snaps in each row. We multiplied them to solve it.

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

M																	
144	81	4	4	49	44	32	33	96	50	5	48	100	32	96	48	3	
11	80	66	18	33	50	18	5	80	110	100	50	80					

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

$6 \times 11 = \square \rightarrow \text{F}$

$10 \times 8 = \square \rightarrow \text{E}$

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

$3 \times 11 = \square \rightarrow \text{O}$

$9 \times 9 = \square \rightarrow \text{U}$

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

$6 \times 8 = \square \rightarrow \text{A}$

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

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

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

$5 \times 10 = \square \rightarrow \text{N}$

$8 \times 12 = \square \rightarrow \text{W}$

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

$9 \times 2 = \square \rightarrow \text{T}$

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

$1 \times 4 = \square \rightarrow \text{D}$

$1 \times 3 = \square \rightarrow \text{S}$

Scratch space:

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

The search party split a bundle of map pieces equally among the team members to find the final secret.

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:

$20 \div 5 = \boxed{}$

$20 \div 4 = \boxed{}$

$6 \div 1 = \boxed{}$

$56 \div 8 = \boxed{}$

$121 \div 11 = \boxed{}$

$99 \div 11 = \boxed{}$

$100 \div 10 = \boxed{}$

$16 \div 8 = \boxed{}$

$8 \div 8 = \boxed{}$

$36 \div 12 = \boxed{}$

$36 \div 3 = \boxed{}$

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain glides across the canopy, then breathes through a bamboo snorkel.
2. The villain calls the wild monkeys, then leaps over logs with spring boots.
3. The villain swings through the vines, then breathes through a bamboo snorkel.
4. The villain swings through the vines, then scales trees with sticky gloves.
5. The villain calls the wild monkeys, then scales trees with sticky gloves.
6. The villain rafts down the rushing river, then swings a heavy rope lasso.
7. The villain glides across the canopy, then leaps over logs with spring boots.
8. The villain wades through the deep swamp, then scales trees with sticky gloves.
9. The villain swings through the vines, then climbs cliffs with a grappling hook.
10. The villain glides across the canopy, then swings a heavy rope lasso.
11. The villain rafts down the rushing river, then breathes through a bamboo snorkel.
12. The villain wades through the deep swamp, then climbs cliffs with a grappling hook.

Answer Key

The Golden Banana Mystery

Culprit: Adventurer Alice

swamp wading · sticky gloves · right footed boot · muddy brown hair · tickly ferns

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 20 → Clue 2 10 → Clue 3 6 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Addition): "THE BANDIT DOES NOT USE A BAMBOO SNORKEL"

$1579 + 864 = 2443$ (T) · $2021 + 1199 = 3220$ (B) · $2622 + 1888 = 4510$ (K) · $3105 + 2034 = 5139$ (E) · $3422 + 5054 = 8476$ (I) · $1068 + 2070 = 3138$ (H) · $2800 + 2939 = 5739$ (M) · $1782 + 2418 = 4200$ (U) · $2994 + 2641 = 5635$ (R) · $4409 + 2006 = 6415$ (L) · $4102 + 3981 = 8083$ (A) · $2813 + 2523 = 5336$ (S) · $2120 + 4349 = 6469$ (N) · $4209 + 3870 = 8079$ (O) · $2129 + 4207 = 6336$ (D)

Clue 2 (Subtraction): "THE FOOTPRINTS LEAN TO THE RIGHT"

$7219 - 1395 = 5824$ (T) · $6001 - 4368 = 1633$ (G) · $7922 - 202 = 7720$ (R) · $7514 - 2197 = 5317$ (S) · $6907 - 2955 = 3952$ (H) · $12286 - 3474 = 8812$ (N) · $5445 - 1173 = 4272$ (F) · $8643 - 3406 = 5237$ (P) · $4772 - 2496 = 2276$ (A) · $9470 - 3988 = 5482$ (E) · $7304 - 2073 = 5231$ (I) · $6639 - 79 = 6560$ (L) · $6135 - 4507 = 1628$ (O)

Clue 3 (Place value): "THE BANDIT SHUNS TICKLY FERNS"

What is the value of the 4 in 649? = 40 (T) · What is the value of the 9 in 2,590? = 90 (S) · What is the value of the 3 in 3,146? = 3000 (E) · What is the value of the 1 in 5,817? = 10 (L) · What is the value of the 9 in 39,605? = 9000 (Y) · What is the value of the 8 in 866? = 800 (H) · What is the value of the 8 in 686? = 80 (N) · What is the value of the 4 in 4,915? = 4000 (C) · What is the value of the 3 in 317? = 300 (I) · What is the value of the 2 in 12,470? = 2000 (B) · What is the value of the 5 in 95,470? = 5000 (F) · What is the value of the 5 in 2,851? = 50 (R) · What is the value of the 6 in 6,939? = 6000 (A) · What is the value of the 2 in 126? = 20 (U) · What is the value of the 5 in 532? = 500 (K) · What is the value of the 9 in 960? = 900 (D)

Clue 4 (Multiplication facts (1-12)): "MUDDY BROWN HAIR WAS LEFT ON THE VINE"

$12 \times 12 = 144$ (M) · $6 \times 11 = 66$ (F) · $10 \times 8 = 80$ (E) · $1 \times 11 = 11$ (L) · $3 \times 11 = 33$ (O) · $9 \times 9 = 81$ (U) · $11 \times 10 = 110$ (V) · $6 \times 8 = 48$ (A) · $1 \times 5 = 5$ (H) · $10 \times 10 = 100$ (I) · $4 \times 8 = 32$ (R) · $5 \times 10 = 50$ (N) · $8 \times 12 = 96$ (W) · $7 \times 7 = 49$ (Y) · $9 \times 2 = 18$ (T) · $11 \times 4 = 44$ (B) · $1 \times 4 = 4$ (D) · $1 \times 3 = 3$ (S)

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

$20 \div 5 = 4$ · $20 \div 4 = 5$ · $6 \div 1 = 6$ · $56 \div 8 = 7$ · $121 \div 11 = 11$ · $99 \div 11 = 9$ · $100 \div 10 = 10$ · $16 \div 8 = 2$ · $8 \div 8 = 1$ · $36 \div 12 = 3$ · $36 \div 3 = 12$