



The Golden Football Mystery

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

Detective: _____ Date: _____

Welcome to the CAL Blue Football Camp! The big championship game is tomorrow, but someone has swiped the lucky Golden Football from the trophy case! Head Coach Ted is worried. Use your math skills and detective training to track down the sneaky culprit before kickoff!

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 cleat crook 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	CAMP ACCESSORY	THROWING HAND	HAIR STYLE	SNACK WEAKNESS
Russell Wilson	rocket throw	laser visor	right handed passer	spiky blonde hair	sticky honey orange
Josh Allen	spin move	laser visor	right handed passer	curly black hair	chilly juice box
Deebo Samuel	turbo sprint	gold whistle	right handed passer	straight brown hair	sticky honey orange
Justin Herbert	bullet pass	grip gloves	left handed passer	curly black hair	chilly juice box
Derrick Henry	rocket throw	cleat spikes	left handed passer	spiky blonde hair	chilly juice box
Stefon Diggs	jump catch	gold whistle	right handed passer	straight brown hair	sticky honey orange
Lamar Jackson	jump catch	gold whistle	left handed passer	straight brown hair	chilly juice box
Justin Jefferson	bullet pass	cleat spikes	right handed passer	spiky blonde hair	chilly juice box
Christian McCaffrey	spin move	grip gloves	left handed passer	spiky blonde hair	melted ice pop
Davante Adams	spin move	neon headband	right handed passer	spiky blonde hair	chilly juice box
Travis Kelce	spin move	cleat spikes	right handed passer	spiky blonde hair	sticky honey orange
Brock Purdy	rocket throw	gold whistle	left handed passer	straight brown hair	melted ice pop
Patrick Mahomes	bullet pass	neon headband	left handed passer	curly black hair	chilly juice box
Jalen Hurts	turbo sprint	neon headband	right handed passer	spiky blonde hair	chilly juice box
Saquon Barkley	bullet pass	neon headband	left handed passer	straight brown hair	sticky honey orange
Baker Mayfield	jump catch	grip gloves	right handed passer	spiky blonde hair	sticky honey orange
Aaron Rodgers	turbo sprint	cleat spikes	left handed passer	spiky blonde hair	sticky honey orange
C J Stroud	spin move	neon headband	right handed passer	spiky blonde hair	sticky honey orange
George Kittle	jump catch	neon headband	left handed passer	spiky blonde hair	chilly juice box
Kyler Murray	bullet pass	neon headband	right handed passer	curly black hair	chilly juice box
Cooper Kupp	bullet pass	gold whistle	right handed passer	spiky blonde hair	sticky honey orange

CLUE 1 Subtraction

Coach Ted had thirty shiny training footballs in the bin this morning, but now only twenty-two are left. Let us subtract to find how many footballs the thief took so we can start our search.

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

T			T											T				
452	225	543	452	225	289	543	548	759	382	543	658	646	382	452	701	543	306	559
231	559	289	571	231	769	382	304	543	658									

$717 - 265 = \square \rightarrow \text{**T**}$

$876 - 117 = \square \rightarrow \text{**D**}$

$1077 - 308 = \square \rightarrow \text{**L**}$

$744 - 201 = \square \rightarrow \text{**E**}$

$332 - 101 = \square \rightarrow \text{**G**}$

$518 - 229 = \square \rightarrow \text{**I**}$

$741 - 95 = \square \rightarrow \text{**N**}$

$647 - 265 = \square \rightarrow \text{**O**}$

$621 - 50 = \square \rightarrow \text{**P**}$

$770 - 211 = \square \rightarrow \text{**R**}$

$1002 - 301 = \square \rightarrow \text{**W**}$

$854 - 196 = \square \rightarrow \text{**S**}$

$566 - 260 = \square \rightarrow \text{**A**}$

$288 - 63 = \square \rightarrow \text{**H**}$

$657 - 353 = \square \rightarrow \text{**V**}$

$550 - 2 = \square \rightarrow \text{**F**}$

Scratch space:

CLUE 2**Multiplication facts (1-12)**

The mystery thief dropped a playbook sheet near the equipment shed. It has a grid of helmet stickers lined up in six rows with five stickers in each row. Let us multiply to find the secret camp code!

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

R												R				
7	5	15	9	32	9	72	77	144	60	144	32	9	7	28	36	90
		R														
36	60	7	60		90	60	60	77								

$7 \times 1 = \square \rightarrow \text{R}$

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

$5 \times 12 = \square \rightarrow \text{E}$

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

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

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

$7 \times 4 = \square \rightarrow \text{O}$

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

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

$9 \times 4 = \square \rightarrow \text{W}$

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

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

Scratch space:

CLUE 3 Skip counting

We found footprints crossing the yard lines on the practice field! The suspect skipped every five yards as they ran. Let us skip count by fives to track their route to the next clue.

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

T			T										T		T			
39	8	45	39	8	80	45	33	55	10	50	50	16	39	130	39	10	50	25
	T																	
130	39	80	55	35	140	8	16	50	45	140	16	14	10	50	12	45		

Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, 33, 36, __, 42, 45 → **T**

Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, __, 10, 12 → **H**

Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, __, 50, 55 → **E**

Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, __, 30, 35 → **D**

Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, __, 14, 16 → **G**

Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, __, 90, 100 → **I**

Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, __, 40, 45 → **K**

Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, 120, 130, __, 150, 160 → **Y**

Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, __, 60, 65 → **C**

Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, __, 60, 70 → **N**

Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, 120, __, 140, 150 → **S**

Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, __, 36, 39 → **F**

Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, __, 16, 18 → **R**

Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, __, 12, 14 → **A**

Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, __, 18, 20 → **O**

Scratch space:

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

We found a pile of practice jerseys left behind by the suspect. If we divide the twenty-four jerseys equally among the three cabins, we will uncover which cabin the culprit is hiding in.

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:

$40 \div 4 = \square$

$108 \div 9 = \square$

$121 \div 11 = \square$

$25 \div 5 = \square$

$84 \div 12 = \square$

$48 \div 8 = \square$

$20 \div 5 = \square$

$63 \div 7 = \square$

$6 \div 6 = \square$

$8 \div 4 = \square$

$3 \div 1 = \square$

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain passes with a bullet throw, then fixes a neon headband.
2. The villain leaps for a jump catch, then fixes a neon headband.
3. The villain leaps for a jump catch, then adjusts a laser visor.
4. The villain leaps for a jump catch, then flashes a gold whistle.
5. The villain executes a rocket throw, then flashes a gold whistle.
6. The villain spins with a quick move, then shows off shiny grip gloves.
7. The villain executes a rocket throw, then stomps with cleat spikes.
8. The villain executes a rocket throw, then adjusts a laser visor.
9. The villain sprints with a turbo burst, then fixes a neon headband.
10. The villain passes with a bullet throw, then flashes a gold whistle.
11. The villain spins with a quick move, then fixes a neon headband.
12. The villain spins with a quick move, then stomps with cleat spikes.

Answer Key

The Golden Football Mystery

Culprit: Russell Wilson

rocket throw · laser visor · right handed passer · spiky blonde hair · sticky honey orange

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 18 → Clue 2 11 → Clue 3 6 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Subtraction): "THE THIEF DOES NOT WEAR GRIP GLOVES"

$717 - 265 = 452$ (T) · $876 - 117 = 759$ (D) · $1077 - 308 = 769$ (L) · $744 - 201 = 543$ (E) · $332 - 101 = 231$ (G) · $518 - 229 = 289$ (I) · $741 - 95 = 646$ (N) · $647 - 265 = 382$ (O) · $621 - 50 = 571$ (P) · $770 - 211 = 559$ (R) · $1002 - 301 = 701$ (W) · $854 - 196 = 658$ (S) · $566 - 260 = 306$ (A) · $288 - 63 = 225$ (H) · $657 - 353 = 304$ (V) · $550 - 2 = 548$ (F)

Clue 2 (Multiplication facts (1-12)): "RIGHT HANDED THROWS WERE SEEN"

$7 \times 1 = 7$ (R) · $4 \times 8 = 32$ (T) · $5 \times 12 = 60$ (E) · $11 \times 7 = 77$ (N) · $3 \times 5 = 15$ (G) · $5 \times 1 = 5$ (I) · $7 \times 4 = 28$ (O) · $9 \times 1 = 9$ (H) · $12 \times 12 = 144$ (D) · $9 \times 4 = 36$ (W) · $9 \times 10 = 90$ (S) · $6 \times 12 = 72$ (A)

Clue 3 (Skip counting): "THE THIEF CANNOT STAND STICKY HONEY ORANGE"

Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, 33, 36, ____, 42, 45 = 39 (T) · Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, ____, 10, 12 = 8 (H) · Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, ____, 50, 55 = 45 (E) · Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, ____, 30, 35 = 25 (D) · Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, ____, 14, 16 = 12 (G) · Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, ____, 90, 100 = 80 (I) · Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, ____, 40, 45 = 35 (K) · Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, 120, 130, ____, 150, 160 = 140 (Y) · Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, ____, 60, 65 = 55 (C) · Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, ____, 60, 70 = 50 (N) · Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, 120, ____, 140, 150 = 130 (S) · Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, ____, 36, 39 = 33 (F) · Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, ____, 16, 18 = 14 (R) · Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, ____, 12, 14 = 10 (A) · Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, ____, 18, 20 = 16 (O)

Clue 4 (Rounding): "SPIKY BLONDE HAIR WAS ON THE HELMET"

Round 70 to the nearest ten = 70 (S) · Round 751 to the nearest hundred = 800 (N) · Round 509 to the nearest hundred = 500 (O) · Round 370 to the nearest hundred = 400 (M) · Round 631 to the nearest hundred = 600 (D) · Round 18 to the nearest ten = 20 (W) · Round 878 to the nearest hundred = 900 (P) · Round 78 to the nearest ten = 80 (H) · Round 9,188 to the nearest thousand = 9000 (K) · Round 59 to the nearest ten = 60 (R) · Round 4,546 to the nearest thousand = 5000 (T) · Round 31 to the nearest ten = 30 (E) · Round 54 to the nearest ten = 50 (I) · Round 38 to the nearest ten = 40 (A) · Round 2,130 to the nearest thousand = 2000 (L) · Round 4,240 to the nearest thousand = 4000 (Y) · Round 5,944 to the nearest thousand = 6000 (B)

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

$40 \div 4 = 10$ · $108 \div 9 = 12$ · $121 \div 11 = 11$ · $25 \div 5 = 5$ · $84 \div 12 = 7$ · $48 \div 8 = 6$ · $20 \div 5 = 4$ · $63 \div 7 = 9$ · $6 \div 6 = 1$ · $8 \div 4 = 2$ · $3 \div 1 = 3$