The Great Catnip Caper

Grade 3 math · Multiplication, Rounding, Addition, Subtraction, Division · Reading level grades 5-6

Detective: _____ **Date:** _____

A sneaky thief has snatched the legendary Golden Yarn Ball from the Whisker Heights Museum! The Curator needs your help to crack the case. Track down the feline suspect before they make off with the ultimate toy.

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 catburglar is _____

Possible suspects

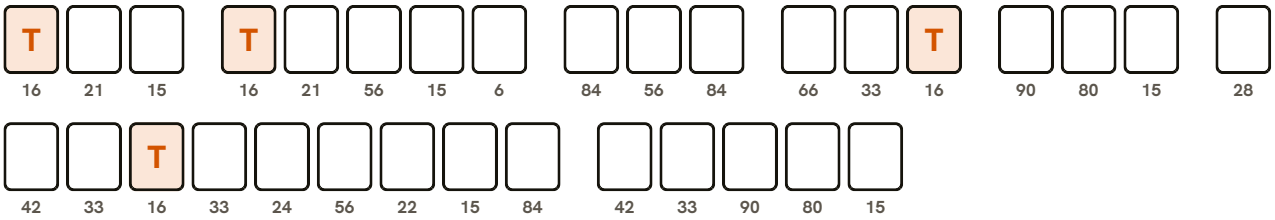
Cross off a row as each clue rules it out. The one left at the end is the culprit.

NAME	SNEAKY SKILL	ESCAPE GEAR	PAW PREFERENCE	FUR PATTERN	DISTRACTION
Bella	carpet scratching	catnip smoke bomb	right pawed	siamese points	shining red dot
Felix	high shelf jumping	motorized mouse	left pawed	tabby stripes	crinkly paper ball
Figaro	carpet scratching	yarn ball decoy	left pawed	tabby stripes	shining red dot
Socks	laser pointer dodging	feather wand rope	right pawed	tabby stripes	crinkly paper ball
Simba	high shelf jumping	catnip smoke bomb	right pawed	calico patches	crinkly paper ball
Oreo	laser pointer dodging	yarn ball decoy	right pawed	siamese points	shining red dot
Cheshire	silent meowing	feather wand rope	right pawed	calico patches	crinkly paper ball
Milo	silent meowing	motorized mouse	right pawed	siamese points	rustling treat bag
Cleo	silent meowing	catnip smoke bomb	right pawed	tabby stripes	crinkly paper ball
Ziggy	carpet scratching	feather wand rope	right pawed	calico patches	crinkly paper ball
Luna	high shelf jumping	cardboard glider	right pawed	siamese points	crinkly paper ball
Oliver	box squeezing	catnip smoke bomb	left pawed	tabby stripes	crinkly paper ball
Tom	carpet scratching	cardboard glider	right pawed	tabby stripes	shining red dot
Sylvester	laser pointer dodging	feather wand rope	left pawed	siamese points	shining red dot
Garfield	silent meowing	cardboard glider	left pawed	calico patches	shining red dot
Jasper	box squeezing	feather wand rope	left pawed	calico patches	crinkly paper ball
Boots	carpet scratching	catnip smoke bomb	left pawed	tabby stripes	crinkly paper ball
Nala	box squeezing	yarn ball decoy	right pawed	siamese points	crinkly paper ball
Whiskers	silent meowing	motorized mouse	right pawed	calico patches	crinkly paper ball
Smokey	box squeezing	yarn ball decoy	right pawed	calico patches	crinkly paper ball
Mittens	box squeezing	yarn ball decoy	right pawed	calico patches	rustling treat bag

CLUE 1 Multiplication facts (1-12)

> To find the first clue, we need to count the boxes of cat food stacked in the pantry. They are arranged in neat rows and columns.

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



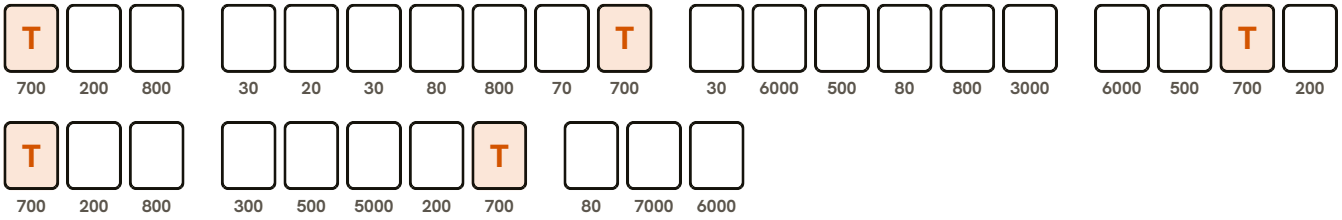
2 × 8 = ☐ → T	3 × 11 = ☐ → O	7 × 8 = ☐ → I	3 × 2 = ☐ → F
5 × 3 = ☐ → E	4 × 7 = ☐ → A	7 × 3 = ☐ → H	11 × 6 = ☐ → N
12 × 7 = ☐ → D	11 × 2 = ☐ → Z	6 × 7 = ☐ → M	
6 × 4 = ☐ → R	8 × 10 = ☐ → S	9 × 10 = ☐ → U	

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Rounding

The museum security scale registered the suspect's weight, but the analog dial only gives us a rounded estimate.

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



Round 671 to the nearest hundred ☐ → T

Round 7,203 to the nearest thousand ☐ → A

Round 81 to the nearest ten ☐ → P

Round 4,535 to the nearest thousand ☐ → G

Round 239 to the nearest hundred ☐ → H

Round 29 to the nearest ten ☐ → S

Round 2,559 to the nearest thousand ☐ → D

Round 524 to the nearest hundred ☐ → I

Round 68 to the nearest ten ☐ → C

Round 803 to the nearest hundred ☐ → E

Round 6,120 to the nearest thousand ☐ → W

Round 273 to the nearest hundred ☐ → R

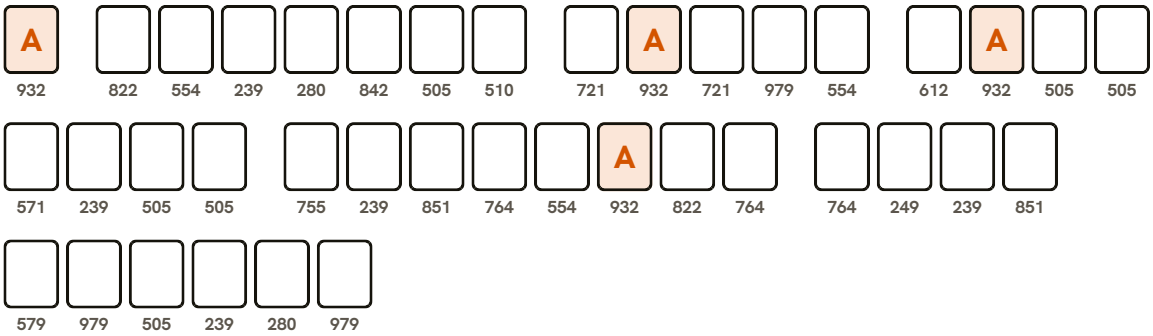
Round 21 to the nearest ten ☐ → U

Scratch space:

CLUE 3 Addition

> The curator gathered all the loose claw covers found on the carpet. Let's add them up to see how many the suspect lost.

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



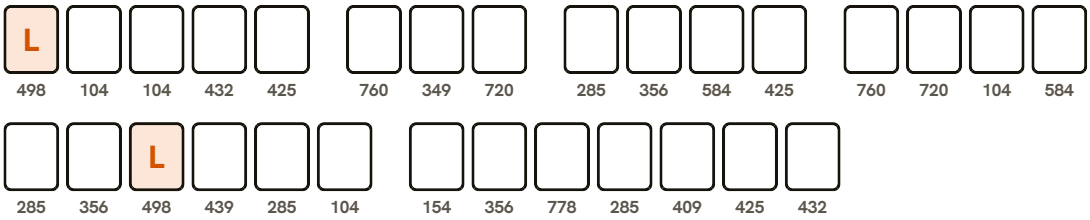
583 + 349 = ☐ → A	166 + 339 = ☐ → L	391 + 588 = ☐ → E
322 + 232 = ☐ → R	202 + 377 = ☐ → F	319 + 293 = ☐ → B
346 + 418 = ☐ → T	157 + 82 = ☐ → I	555 + 296 = ☐ → S
462 + 360 = ☐ → C	272 + 483 = ☐ → D	123 + 126 = ☐ → H
349 + 222 = ☐ → W	329 + 181 = ☐ → Y	580 + 262 = ☐ → K
368 + 353 = ☐ → P	105 + 175 = ☐ → N	

Scratch space:

CLUE 4 Subtraction

> The thief knocked over a jar of cat treats and ate some. We can find the missing amount by subtracting what remains from the starting total.

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



660 - 162 = ☐ → **L**

1076 - 316 = ☐ → **F**

918 - 140 = ☐ → **T**

542 - 186 = ☐ → **A**

368 - 264 = ☐ → **O**

661 - 252 = ☐ → **H**

472 - 123 = ☐ → **U**

785 - 201 = ☐ → **M**

541 - 102 = ☐ → **I**

990 - 270 = ☐ → **R**

547 - 115 = ☐ → **S**

545 - 120 = ☐ → **E**

388 - 234 = ☐ → **P**

544 - 259 = ☐ → **C**

Scratch space:

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

> A pack of alley cats agreed to share information if we divide our stash of tuna cans equally among them.

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:

60 ÷ 5 = ☐ | 32 ÷ 4 = ☐ | 6 ÷ 1 = ☐ | 2 ÷ 1 = ☐ | 7 ÷ 1 = ☐

88 ÷ 8 = ☐ | 10 ÷ 10 = ☐ | 110 ÷ 11 = ☐ | 55 ÷ 11 = ☐ | 72 ÷ 8 = ☐

20 ÷ 5 = ☐

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain avoided the security lasers, then vanished in a catnip smoke bomb.
2. The villain shredded the heavy curtains, then distracted guards with a motorized mouse.
3. The villain shredded the heavy curtains, then escaped using a feather wand rope.
4. The villain snuck through the small cat door, then distracted guards with a motorized mouse.
5. The villain leaped to the ceiling rafters, then left behind a decoy yarn ball.
6. The villain leaped to the ceiling rafters, then vanished in a catnip smoke bomb.
7. The villain avoided the security lasers, then distracted guards with a motorized mouse.
8. The villain snuck through the small cat door, then left behind a decoy yarn ball.
9. The villain leaped to the ceiling rafters, then soared away on a cardboard glider.
10. The villain slipped past the guard dogs silently, then vanished in a catnip smoke bomb.
11. The villain shredded the heavy curtains, then left behind a decoy yarn ball.
12. The villain slipped past the guard dogs silently, then escaped using a feather wand rope.

TEACHER / PARENT

Answer Key

The Great Catnip Caper

Culprit: Ziggy

carpet scratching · feather wand rope · right pawed · calico patches · crinkly paper ball

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 18 → Clue 2 12 → Clue 3 8 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Multiplication facts (1-12)): "THE THIEF DID NOT USE A MOTORIZED MOUSE"

2 × 8 = 16 (T) · 3 × 11 = 33 (O) · 7 × 8 = 56 (I) · 3 × 2 = 6 (F) · 5 × 3 = 15 (E) · 4 × 7 = 28 (A) · 7 × 3 = 21 (H) · 11 × 6 = 66 (N) · 12 × 7 = 84 (D) · 11 × 2 = 22 (Z) · 6 × 7 = 42 (M) · 6 × 4 = 24 (R) · 8 × 10 = 80 (S) · 9 × 10 = 90 (U)

Clue 2 (Rounding): "THE SUSPECT SWIPED WITH THE RIGHT PAW"

Round 671 to the nearest hundred = 700 (T) · Round 7,203 to the nearest thousand = 7000 (A) · Round 81 to the nearest ten = 80 (P) · Round 4,535 to the nearest thousand = 5000 (G) · Round 239 to the nearest hundred = 200 (H) · Round 29 to the nearest ten = 30 (S) · Round 2,559 to the nearest thousand = 3000 (D) · Round 524 to the nearest hundred = 500 (I) · Round 68 to the nearest ten = 70 (C) · Round 803 to the nearest hundred = 800 (E) · Round 6,120 to the nearest thousand = 6000 (W) · Round 273 to the nearest hundred = 300 (R) · Round 21 to the nearest ten = 20 (U)

Clue 3 (Addition): "A CRINKLY PAPER BALL WILL DISTRACT THIS FELINE"

583 + 349 = 932 (A) · 166 + 339 = 505 (L) · 391 + 588 = 979 (E) · 322 + 232 = 554 (R) · 202 + 377 = 579 (F) · 319 + 293 = 612 (B) · 346 + 418 = 764 (T) · 157 + 82 = 239 (I) · 555 + 296 = 851 (S) · 462 + 360 = 822 (C) · 272 + 483 = 755 (D) · 123 + 126 = 249 (H) · 349 + 222 = 571 (W) · 329 + 181 = 510 (Y) · 580 + 262 = 842 (K) · 368 + 353 = 721 (P) · 105 + 175 = 280 (N)

Clue 4 (Subtraction): "LOOSE FUR CAME FROM CALICO PATCHES"

660 - 162 = 498 (L) · 1076 - 316 = 760 (F) · 918 - 140 = 778 (T) · 542 - 186 = 356 (A) · 368 - 264 = 104 (O) · 661 - 252 = 409 (H) · 472 - 123 = 349 (U) · 785 - 201 = 584 (M) · 541 - 102 = 439 (I) · 990 - 270 = 720 (R) · 547 - 115 = 432 (S) · 545 - 120 = 425 (E) · 388 - 234 = 154 (P) · 544 - 259 = 285 (C)

Clue 5 (Division facts (1-12)): surviving statement is box 3 → Ziggy

60 ÷ 5 = 12 · 32 ÷ 4 = 8 · 6 ÷ 1 = 6 · 2 ÷ 1 = 2 · 7 ÷ 1 = 7 · 88 ÷ 8 = 11 · 10 ÷ 10 = 1 · 110 ÷ 11 = 10 · 55 ÷ 11 = 5 · 72 ÷ 8 = 9 · 20 ÷ 5 = 4