



The Great Lagoon Heist

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

Detective: _____ Date: _____

The sanctuary is in an uproar! Someone has snuck into the safe and taken the golden kelp seed. The local rangers need your help to trace the tracks and find the culprit before they swim away!

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 rogue creature 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	SECRET TOOL	WATCH WRIST	GILL OR FEATHER COLOR	SNOOZE TRIGGER
Jacques Cousteau	super fast swim	golden compass	left wrist watch	bright pink gills	very loud noise
Dr Jane Goodall	super fast swim	kelp cloak	right wrist watch	shiny blue scales	bright flashing light
Ranger Steve	mud excavation	kelp cloak	left wrist watch	fuzzy brown down	super cold water
Toby Tadpole	electric bubble blast	kelp cloak	left wrist watch	bright pink gills	super cold water
Finn Riverton	water cannon splash	kelp cloak	left wrist watch	bright pink gills	super cold water
Pippa Platypus	super fast swim	golden compass	left wrist watch	shiny blue scales	very loud noise
Darwin Finch	sparkling sonar	neon snorkel	left wrist watch	shiny blue scales	super cold water
Ranger Rita	mud excavation	neon snorkel	left wrist watch	shiny blue scales	very loud noise
Waddles McGee	water cannon splash	kelp cloak	right wrist watch	shiny blue scales	bright flashing light
Bindi Irwin	super fast swim	flipper boots	right wrist watch	bright pink gills	very loud noise
Splashy Sam	water cannon splash	kelp cloak	right wrist watch	shiny blue scales	very loud noise
Sally Salamander	sparkling sonar	glowing lantern	left wrist watch	shiny blue scales	very loud noise
Narwhal Ned	mud excavation	golden compass	left wrist watch	bright pink gills	very loud noise
Sylvia Earle	super fast swim	glowing lantern	left wrist watch	shiny blue scales	bright flashing light
Ranger Rick	super fast swim	golden compass	left wrist watch	bright pink gills	bright flashing light
Manatee Manny	sparkling sonar	glowing lantern	left wrist watch	shiny blue scales	bright flashing light
Platypus Pete	super fast swim	flipper boots	left wrist watch	shiny blue scales	very loud noise
Sandy Shore	super fast swim	kelp cloak	left wrist watch	shiny blue scales	very loud noise
Axolotl Annie	sparkling sonar	golden compass	right wrist watch	bright pink gills	super cold water
Wally Waterdog	mud excavation	neon snorkel	left wrist watch	shiny blue scales	bright flashing light
David Attenborough	water cannon splash	golden compass	right wrist watch	fuzzy brown down	very loud noise

CLUE 1 Rounding

We check the digital sonar screen. The distance numbers are always rounded to the nearest ten. Rounding the signals gives us our first clue.

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

T																T
700	5000	300	60	80	8000	8000	50	80	3000	2000	400	300	90	3000	400	700
500	300	50	600	900	8000	80	4000	4000	300	600	20	400	400	700	90	

Round 734 to the nearest hundred → **T**

Round 1,960 to the nearest thousand → **D**

Round 18 to the nearest ten → **B**

Round 61 to the nearest ten → **V**

Round 5,149 to the nearest thousand → **H**

Round 528 to the nearest hundred → **W**

Round 94 to the nearest ten → **S**

Round 410 to the nearest hundred → **O**

Round 642 to the nearest hundred → **R**

Round 905 to the nearest hundred → **F**

Round 4,125 to the nearest thousand → **P**

Round 79 to the nearest ten → **I**

Round 8,036 to the nearest thousand → **L**

Round 49 to the nearest ten → **A**

Round 3,320 to the nearest thousand → **N**

Round 334 to the nearest hundred → **E**

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Addition

The ranger tallies the stray footprints on the muddy path. Adding these tracks together reveals another piece of the puzzle.

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

T																		
453	571	836	356	282	928	563	445	394	453	966	836	567	445	898	567			
966	567	453	356	571	507	546	453	571	836	928	836	675	453	966	445	394	898	453

$164 + 289 = \square \rightarrow \text{ T }$	$392 + 171 = \square \rightarrow \text{ P }$	$273 + 273 = \square \rightarrow \text{ N }$
$101 + 181 = \square \rightarrow \text{ U }$	$176 + 180 = \square \rightarrow \text{ C }$	$382 + 293 = \square \rightarrow \text{ F }$
$266 + 570 = \square \rightarrow \text{ E }$	$433 + 533 = \square \rightarrow \text{ W }$	$330 + 237 = \square \rightarrow \text{ A }$
$259 + 186 = \square \rightarrow \text{ R }$	$465 + 433 = \square \rightarrow \text{ S }$	$480 + 448 = \square \rightarrow \text{ L }$
$267 + 240 = \square \rightarrow \text{ O }$	$360 + 211 = \square \rightarrow \text{ H }$	$148 + 246 = \square \rightarrow \text{ I }$

Scratch space:

CLUE 3

Subtraction

The thief dropped some stolen supplies. We count the starting pile and subtract what is left behind to find the difference.

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

A																			
293	240	464	206	545	519	617	255	401	272	617	230	252	464	252	120	617	564	252	

120	721	464	674	687	617	519	401

$541 - 248 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{A}}$

$122 - 2 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{T}}$

$272 - 66 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{R}}$

$798 - 253 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{Y}}$

$775 - 54 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{H}}$

$518 - 278 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{V}}$

$620 - 219 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{D}}$

$272 - 42 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{I}}$

$637 - 118 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{L}}$

$412 - 157 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{U}}$

$580 - 116 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{E}}$

$740 - 176 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{P}}$

$733 - 46 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{C}}$

$467 - 195 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{N}}$

$661 - 44 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{O}}$

$683 - 9 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{M}}$

$334 - 82 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{S}}$

Scratch space:

CLUE 4

Multiplication facts (1-12)

We inspect the glowing egg chambers. They are organized in equal rows. Multiplying the rows gives us a code to unlock a secret file.

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

W															
50	28	55	42	9	121	44	21	16	25	121	45	88	108	9	28
21	5	35	108	28	21	35	36	36	16	28	21	5	28	121	28

$10 \times 5 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{W}}$

$5 \times 7 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{A}}$

$5 \times 11 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{F}}$

$5 \times 1 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{C}}$

$9 \times 1 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{U}}$

$4 \times 11 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{D}}$

$4 \times 4 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{H}}$

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

$11 \times 8 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{B}}$

$7 \times 3 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{S}}$

$6 \times 7 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{O}}$

$9 \times 5 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{Y}}$

$7 \times 4 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{E}}$

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

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

$3 \times 12 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{T}}$

Scratch space:

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

The baby axolotls need to be split into equal swimming teams. Dividing them up fairly unlocks the final mystery 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:

$56 \div 8 = \boxed{}$

$40 \div 5 = \boxed{}$

$10 \div 5 = \boxed{}$

$42 \div 7 = \boxed{}$

$15 \div 5 = \boxed{}$

$36 \div 9 = \boxed{}$

$20 \div 4 = \boxed{}$

$11 \div 11 = \boxed{}$

$48 \div 4 = \boxed{}$

$120 \div 12 = \boxed{}$

$33 \div 3 = \boxed{}$

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain shocks the lock with an electric bubble blast, then lights the dark tunnel with a glowing lantern.
2. The villain uses sparkling sonar to find the safe, then lights the dark tunnel with a glowing lantern.
3. The villain breaks the gate with a water cannon splash, then runs across the beach in flipper boots.
4. The villain breaks the gate with a water cannon splash, then escapes using a neon snorkel.
5. The villain digs through the floor with mud excavation, then navigates the swamp with a golden compass.
6. The villain breaks the gate with a water cannon splash, then hides in the shadows wearing a kelp cloak.
7. The villain races past the guards using super fast swim, then hides in the shadows wearing a kelp cloak.
8. The villain races past the guards using super fast swim, then navigates the swamp with a golden compass.
9. The villain digs through the floor with mud excavation, then escapes using a neon snorkel.
10. The villain uses sparkling sonar to find the safe, then runs across the beach in flipper boots.
11. The villain shocks the lock with an electric bubble blast, then hides in the shadows wearing a kelp cloak.
12. The villain uses sparkling sonar to find the safe, then hides in the shadows wearing a kelp cloak.

Answer Key

The Great Lagoon Heist

Culprit: Ranger Rita

mud excavation · neon snorkel · left wrist watch · shiny blue scales · very loud noise

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 19 → Clue 2 14 → Clue 3 6 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Rounding): "THE VILLAIN DOES NOT WEAR FLIPPER BOOTS"

Round 734 to the nearest hundred = 700 (T) · Round 1,960 to the nearest thousand = 2000 (D) · Round 18 to the nearest ten = 20 (B) · Round 61 to the nearest ten = 60 (V) · Round 5,149 to the nearest thousand = 5000 (H) · Round 528 to the nearest hundred = 500 (W) · Round 94 to the nearest ten = 90 (S) · Round 410 to the nearest hundred = 400 (O) · Round 642 to the nearest hundred = 600 (R) · Round 905 to the nearest hundred = 900 (F) · Round 4,125 to the nearest thousand = 4000 (P) · Round 79 to the nearest ten = 80 (I) · Round 8,036 to the nearest thousand = 8000 (L) · Round 49 to the nearest ten = 50 (A) · Round 3,320 to the nearest thousand = 3000 (N) · Round 334 to the nearest hundred = 300 (E)

Clue 2 (Addition): "THE CULPRIT WEARS A WATCH ON THE LEFT WRIST"

$164 + 289 = 453$ (T) · $392 + 171 = 563$ (P) · $273 + 273 = 546$ (N) · $101 + 181 = 282$ (U) · $176 + 180 = 356$ (C) · $382 + 293 = 675$ (F) · $266 + 570 = 836$ (E) · $433 + 533 = 966$ (W) · $330 + 237 = 567$ (A) · $259 + 186 = 445$ (R) · $465 + 433 = 898$ (S) · $480 + 448 = 928$ (L) · $267 + 240 = 507$ (O) · $360 + 211 = 571$ (H) · $148 + 246 = 394$ (I)

Clue 3 (Subtraction): "A VERY LOUD NOISE STOPS THEM COLD"

$541 - 248 = 293$ (A) · $122 - 2 = 120$ (T) · $272 - 66 = 206$ (R) · $798 - 253 = 545$ (Y) · $775 - 54 = 721$ (H) · $518 - 278 = 240$ (V) · $620 - 219 = 401$ (D) · $272 - 42 = 230$ (I) · $637 - 118 = 519$ (L) · $412 - 157 = 255$ (U) · $580 - 116 = 464$ (E) · $740 - 176 = 564$ (P) · $733 - 46 = 687$ (C) · $467 - 195 = 272$ (N) · $661 - 44 = 617$ (O) · $683 - 9 = 674$ (M) · $334 - 82 = 252$ (S)

Clue 4 (Multiplication facts (1-12)): "WE FOUND SHINY BLUE SCALES AT THE SCENE"

$10 \times 5 = 50$ (W) · $5 \times 7 = 35$ (A) · $5 \times 11 = 55$ (F) · $5 \times 1 = 5$ (C) · $9 \times 1 = 9$ (U) · $4 \times 11 = 44$ (D) · $4 \times 4 = 16$ (H) · $5 \times 5 = 25$ (I) · $11 \times 8 = 88$ (B) · $7 \times 3 = 21$ (S) · $6 \times 7 = 42$ (O) · $9 \times 5 = 45$ (Y) · $7 \times 4 = 28$ (E) · $11 \times 11 = 121$ (N) · $9 \times 12 = 108$ (L) · $3 \times 12 = 36$ (T)

Clue 5 (Division facts (1-12)): surviving statement is box 9 → Ranger Rita

$56 \div 8 = 7$ · $40 \div 5 = 8$ · $10 \div 5 = 2$ · $42 \div 7 = 6$ · $15 \div 5 = 3$ · $36 \div 9 = 4$ · $20 \div 4 = 5$ · $11 \div 11 = 1$ · $48 \div 4 = 12$ · $120 \div 12 = 10$ · $33 \div 3 = 11$