



The Great Pumpkin Heist

Grade 5 math · Skip counting, Subtraction, Rounding, Fractions of a number, Division · Reading level grades 3-4

Detective: _____ Date: _____

A sneaky thief has snatched the Golden Pumpkin Trophy! Mayor Barnaby needs your detective skills to find the culprit before the spooky parade begins.

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 Pumpkin Thief is _____

Possible suspects

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

NAME	MAIN MAGIC	TRICK POWER	STANCE	DISGUISE HAIR	WEAKNESS
Zombie Zach	turning into a bat	stealing pumpkin pies	left-handed grab	neon orange wig	spooky ghost stories
Gaspard Ghost	throwing pumpkin bombs	making spooky sounds	left-handed grab	pitch black wig	shiny silver flashlights
Mummy Mort	flying on a broom	making spooky sounds	left-handed grab	neon orange wig	shiny silver flashlights
Wicked Wendy	flying on a broom	floating off the ground	right-handed grab	toxic green wig	spooky ghost stories
Slinky Sid	flying on a broom	floating off the ground	right-handed grab	neon orange wig	spooky ghost stories
Howling Hank	flying on a broom	glowing in the dark	left-handed grab	neon orange wig	spooky ghost stories
Bones Malone	brewing sleeping potions	glowing in the dark	left-handed grab	neon orange wig	spooky ghost stories
Vampire Vick	summoning skeleton armies	spinning spider webs	left-handed grab	pitch black wig	shiny silver flashlights
Eerie Elsa	throwing pumpkin bombs	stealing pumpkin pies	left-handed grab	pitch black wig	shiny silver flashlights
Fangs Freddy	summoning skeleton armies	glowing in the dark	left-handed grab	pitch black wig	shiny silver flashlights
Specter Sally	flying on a broom	stealing pumpkin pies	right-handed grab	toxic green wig	shiny silver flashlights
Creepy Carla	throwing pumpkin bombs	stealing pumpkin pies	left-handed grab	toxic green wig	cheesy monster jokes
Wolfman Jack	turning into a bat	stealing pumpkin pies	left-handed grab	pitch black wig	spooky ghost stories
Shadow Shawn	summoning skeleton armies	spinning spider webs	left-handed grab	neon orange wig	spooky ghost stories
Goblin Gary	flying on a broom	floating off the ground	right-handed grab	pitch black wig	shiny silver flashlights
Spooky Sam	brewing sleeping potions	spinning spider webs	right-handed grab	neon orange wig	spooky ghost stories
Bramble Jack	brewing sleeping potions	spinning spider webs	left-handed grab	pitch black wig	spooky ghost stories
Frankenstein	flying on a broom	glowing in the dark	left-handed grab	toxic green wig	spooky ghost stories
Casper Friendly	brewing sleeping potions	floating off the ground	left-handed grab	pitch black wig	spooky ghost stories
Witch Hazel	flying on a broom	stealing pumpkin pies	right-handed grab	pitch black wig	spooky ghost stories
Bony Brenda	brewing sleeping potions	floating off the ground	left-handed grab	neon orange wig	spooky ghost stories

CLUE 1

The security guard tracked footprints across the pumpkin patch. To find the next clue, we must count the tracks skipping every third pumpkin.

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

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

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

Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, __, 28, 30 → **A**

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

Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, __, 30, 32 → **E**

Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, , 18, 21 → **S**

Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, __, 20, 22 → **N**

Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, __, 75, 80 → **K**

Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, 33, , 39, 42 → **U**

Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, 33, 36, 39, __, 45, 48 → ☐

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

Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, , 15, 18 → **P**

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

Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, __, 24, 26 → **H**

Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, __, 65, 70 → **I**

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Subtraction

The candy corn stash was raided by the thief. If we subtract the eaten pieces from the original pile, we can unlock the second clue.

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

T			T														T
4281	3338	5383	4281	3338	8277	5383	2717	1113	1592	5383	7586	1020	5611	5383	2717	4281	
3338	1020	5171	7586	5383	7586	6254	1817	1020	1413								

8875 - 4594 = → T	3805 - 2692 = → U	6346 - 92 = → G
2932 - 1912 = → A	3233 - 1416 = → R	3948 - 1231 = → F
9203 - 3820 = → E	4851 - 3438 = → B	10002 - 1725 = → I
11829 - 4243 = → D	8240 - 3069 = → N	7466 - 4128 = → H
8977 - 3366 = → L	3274 - 1682 = → S	

Scratch space:

CLUE 3 Rounding

The carnival radar screen shows the thief escaping. The radar only displays numbers rounded to the nearest ten, so we must round the speed to read the clue.

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

T			T							T								
9000	900	5000	9000	900	1700	5000	50	900	7000	9000	5000	1100	1100	4300	2000	2000	3000	2900
				T		T												
290	900	2000	1100	9000	1100	9000	2000	2300	1700	5000	1100							

Round 8,706 to the nearest thousand → **T**

Round 6,616 to the nearest thousand → **A**

Round 2,323 to the nearest hundred → **R**

Round 1,661 to the nearest hundred → **I**

Round 4,255 to the nearest hundred → **P**

Round 48 to the nearest ten → **F**

Round 2,462 to the nearest thousand → **O**

Round 288 to the nearest ten → **G**

Round 3,231 to the nearest thousand → **K**

Round 4,745 to the nearest thousand → **E**

Round 1,074 to the nearest hundred → **S**

Round 2,897 to the nearest hundred → **Y**

Round 896 to the nearest hundred → **H**

Scratch space:

CLUE 4

Fractions of a number

A group of friendly bats wants to help us. If we can find exactly one-third of the bats in the tree, they will point us to the fourth clue.

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

W																
20	34	13	10	29	7	33	7	34	10	7	10	8	36	7	22	34

W									
20	3	22	37	6	8	36	7	33	37

$2/6$ of 60 = → W	$4/10$ of 55 = → G	$3/6$ of 6 = → I
$2/4$ of 12 = → T	$1/6$ of 42 = → N	$1/3$ of 102 = → E
$2/6$ of 30 = → O	$4/8$ of 66 = → D	$2/10$ of 185 = → S
$1/6$ of 78 = → F	$1/3$ of 87 = → U	$6/8$ of 48 = → A
$1/4$ of 32 = → R		

Scratch space:

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

A bag of glow sticks needs to be shared equally among the detective team. Solving this division problem will reveal 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:

$44 \div 4 = \boxed{}$

$8 \div 2 = \boxed{}$

$36 \div 3 = \boxed{}$

$15 \div 5 = \boxed{}$

$30 \div 6 = \boxed{}$

$84 \div 12 = \boxed{}$

$99 \div 11 = \boxed{}$

$14 \div 7 = \boxed{}$

$12 \div 12 = \boxed{}$

$32 \div 4 = \boxed{}$

$48 \div 8 = \boxed{}$

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain throws a glowing pumpkin bomb, then makes creepy howling sounds.
2. The villain throws a glowing pumpkin bomb, then spins a web of sticky spider webs.
3. The villain summons a tiny skeleton army, then glows in the dark spooky green.
4. The villain brews a smelly sleeping potion, then glows in the dark spooky green.
5. The villain turns into a squeaky bat, then spins a web of sticky spider webs.
6. The villain flies away on a broomstick, then makes creepy howling sounds.
7. The villain turns into a squeaky bat, then floats an inch off the cold ground.
8. The villain summons a tiny skeleton army, then makes creepy howling sounds.
9. The villain summons a tiny skeleton army, then steals all the fresh pumpkin pies.
10. The villain flies away on a broomstick, then glows in the dark spooky green.
11. The villain brews a smelly sleeping potion, then floats an inch off the cold ground.
12. The villain summons a tiny skeleton army, then spins a web of sticky spider webs.

Answer Key

The Great Pumpkin Heist

Culprit: Howling Hank

flying on a broom · glowing in the dark · left-handed grab · neon orange wig · spooky ghost stories

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 15 → Clue 2 11 → Clue 3 7 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Skip counting): "THE THIEF DOES NOT STEAL PUMPKIN PIES"

Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, __, 90, 100 = 80 (T) · Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, __, 40, 45 = 35 (M) · Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, __, 28, 30 = 26 (A) · Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, 120, __, 140, 150 = 130 (D) · Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, __, 30, 32 = 28 (E) · Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, __, 18, 21 = 15 (S) · Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, __, 20, 22 = 18 (N) · Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, __, 75, 80 = 70 (K) · Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, 33, __, 39, 42 = 36 (U) · Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, 33, 36, 39, __, 45, 48 = 42 (O) · Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, __, 110, 120 = 100 (F) · Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, __, 15, 18 = 12 (P) · Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, __, 50, 55 = 45 (L) · Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, __, 24, 26 = 22 (H) · Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, __, 65, 70 = 60 (I)

Clue 2 (Subtraction): "THE THIEF USED A LEFT HANDED GRAB"

8875 - 4594 = 4281 (T) · 3805 - 2692 = 1113 (U) · 6346 - 92 = 6254 (G) · 2932 - 1912 = 1020 (A) · 3233 - 1416 = 1817 (R) · 3948 - 1231 = 2717 (F) · 9203 - 3820 = 5383 (E) · 4851 - 3438 = 1413 (B) · 10002 - 1725 = 8277 (I) · 11829 - 4243 = 7586 (D) · 8240 - 3069 = 5171 (N) · 7466 - 4128 = 3338 (H) · 8977 - 3366 = 5611 (L) · 3274 - 1682 = 1592 (S)

Clue 3 (Rounding): "THE THIEF HATES SPOOKY GHOST STORIES"

Round 8,706 to the nearest thousand = 9000 (T) · Round 6,616 to the nearest thousand = 7000 (A) · Round 2,323 to the nearest hundred = 2300 (R) · Round 1,661 to the nearest hundred = 1700 (I) · Round 4,255 to the nearest hundred = 4300 (P) · Round 48 to the nearest ten = 50 (F) · Round 2,462 to the nearest thousand = 2000 (O) · Round 288 to the nearest ten = 290 (G) · Round 3,231 to the nearest thousand = 3000 (K) · Round 4,745 to the nearest thousand = 5000 (E) · Round 1,074 to the nearest hundred = 1100 (S) · Round 2,897 to the nearest hundred = 2900 (Y) · Round 896 to the nearest hundred = 900 (H)

Clue 4 (Fractions of a number): "WE FOUND NEON ORANGE WIG STRANDS"

$\frac{2}{6}$ of 60 = 20 (W) · $\frac{4}{10}$ of 55 = 22 (G) · $\frac{3}{6}$ of 6 = 3 (I) · $\frac{2}{4}$ of 12 = 6 (T) · $\frac{1}{6}$ of 42 = 7 (N) · $\frac{1}{3}$ of 102 = 34 (E) · $\frac{2}{6}$ of 30 = 10 (O) · $\frac{4}{8}$ of 66 = 33 (D) · $\frac{2}{10}$ of 185 = 37 (S) · $\frac{1}{6}$ of 78 = 13 (F) · $\frac{1}{3}$ of 87 = 29 (U) · $\frac{6}{8}$ of 48 = 36 (A) · $\frac{1}{4}$ of 32 = 8 (R)

Clue 5 (Division facts (1-12)): surviving statement is box 10 → Howling Hank

$44 \div 4 = 11$ · $8 \div 2 = 4$ · $36 \div 3 = 12$ · $15 \div 5 = 3$ · $30 \div 6 = 5$ · $84 \div 12 = 7$ · $99 \div 11 = 9$ · $14 \div 7 = 2$ · $12 \div 12 = 1$ · $32 \div 4 = 8$ · $48 \div 8 = 6$