



The Mars Seed Heist

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

Detective: _____ Date: _____

Someone has stolen the rare Glowing Moon-Berry seeds from Astro-Dome Delta! Space Patrol needs you to catch the cosmic bandit before they rocket out of the galaxy!

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 cosmic bandit is _____

Possible suspects

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

NAME	SPACE SUIT GEAR	SHIP LASER COLOR	WRITING HAND	HELMET TINT	WEAKNESS
Sunita Williams	Jetpack	Purple Beam	Left Handed	Silver Tint	Solar Flares
Jim Lovell	Gravity Belt	Yellow Beam	Left Handed	Silver Tint	Asteroid Ice
Alan Shepard	Magnetic Gloves	Blue Beam	Left Handed	Blue Tint	Space Dust
Pete Conrad	Magnetic Gloves	Purple Beam	Right Handed	Blue Tint	Solar Flares
Scott Kelly	Plasma Shield	Green Beam	Right Handed	Orange Tint	Asteroid Ice
Mark Kelly	Jetpack	Purple Beam	Right Handed	Silver Tint	Solar Flares
Valentina Tereshkova	Jetpack	Red Beam	Right Handed	Silver Tint	Solar Flares
Sally Ride	Plasma Shield	Red Beam	Right Handed	Silver Tint	Solar Flares
Mae Jemison	Magnetic Gloves	Blue Beam	Right Handed	Silver Tint	Solar Flares
Buzz Aldrin	Gravity Belt	Blue Beam	Left Handed	Orange Tint	Space Dust
Gene Cernan	Laser Boots	Purple Beam	Right Handed	Silver Tint	Space Dust
Charles Bolden	Jetpack	Purple Beam	Left Handed	Blue Tint	Asteroid Ice
John Glenn	Plasma Shield	Blue Beam	Right Handed	Silver Tint	Space Dust
Frank Borman	Jetpack	Green Beam	Left Handed	Silver Tint	Solar Flares
Yuri Gagarin	Jetpack	Purple Beam	Left Handed	Orange Tint	Solar Flares
Chris Hadfield	Gravity Belt	Red Beam	Right Handed	Blue Tint	Solar Flares
Neil Armstrong	Laser Boots	Blue Beam	Left Handed	Silver Tint	Asteroid Ice
Kalpana Chawla	Laser Boots	Green Beam	Left Handed	Orange Tint	Asteroid Ice
Peggy Whitson	Magnetic Gloves	Purple Beam	Left Handed	Blue Tint	Space Dust
Guion Bluford	Gravity Belt	Yellow Beam	Right Handed	Orange Tint	Asteroid Ice
Guy Laliberte	Magnetic Gloves	Yellow Beam	Right Handed	Silver Tint	Solar Flares

CLUE 1

The starship radar took a fuzzy reading of the escape ship speed. To get the correct readout, you must round these launch codes to the nearest ten.

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

8000 20 90 60 900 400 6000 2000 8000 6000 500 90 700 400 500 8000 4000 700 90

900 3000 4000 80 3000 300 90 60 90 900 40

Round 8,145 to the nearest thousand $\rightarrow$ **T**

Round 5,773 to the nearest thousand → **D**

Round 489 to the nearest hundred $\rightarrow$

Round 18 to the nearest ten $\rightarrow$ **H**

Round 80 to the nearest ten → **R**

Round 93 to the nearest ten → **E**

Round 408 to the nearest hundred $\rightarrow$ **N**

Round 308 to the nearest hundred $\rightarrow$ **L**

Round 2,456 to the nearest thousand →

Round 43 to the nearest ten → **M**

Round 4,202 to the nearest thousand →

Round 3,444 to the nearest thousand → **P**

Round 64 to the nearest ten → **B**

Round 910 to the nearest hundred $\rightarrow$ **A**

Round 736 to the nearest hundred $\rightarrow$ **S**

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Addition

We found the fuel canisters left behind in the hanger. Let us add up all the lost fuel cells to see which direction the ship headed.

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

T								T											
949	432	348	776	470	217	432	949	432	231	221	780	217	776	231	715	715	348	780	

T							T					
949	432	348	686	762	221	949	776	762	204	948		

$633 + 316 = \square \rightarrow$ T	$154 + 77 = \square \rightarrow$ A	$384 + 378 = \square \rightarrow$ O
$69 + 148 = \square \rightarrow$ G	$272 + 160 = \square \rightarrow$ H	$202 + 268 = \square \rightarrow$ I
$515 + 261 = \square \rightarrow$ R	$530 + 418 = \square \rightarrow$ S	$310 + 376 = \square \rightarrow$ C
$113 + 91 = \square \rightarrow$ L	$119 + 102 = \square \rightarrow$ N	$249 + 466 = \square \rightarrow$ B
$361 + 419 = \square \rightarrow$ D	$126 + 222 = \square \rightarrow$ E	

Scratch space:

CLUE 3

Subtraction

The bandit dropped cargo crates to make their getaway ship lighter. Subtract the missing crates to calculate the bandit's current weight.

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

A										A						
707	492	514	288	441	241	347	682	598	596	707	514	345	596	707	514	806
492	596	288	741	651	806	651	347	241	806	345	598	806				

$917 - 210 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{A}}$

$857 - 343 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{R}}$

$817 - 219 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{O}}$

$453 - 165 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{I}}$

$471 - 124 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{T}}$

$793 - 111 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{S}}$

$1062 - 321 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{N}}$

$683 - 191 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{B}}$

$397 - 52 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{F}}$

$901 - 305 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{L}}$

$784 - 343 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{G}}$

$407 - 166 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{H}}$

$1012 - 206 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{E}}$

$754 - 103 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{D}}$

Scratch space:

CLUE 4

Multiplication facts (1-12)

The star map has rows of glowing warp gates. Multiply the gates in each sector to find the coordinates of the bandit's hideout.

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

A												
9	88	84	121	21	16	35	30	121	36	81	18	84

											A					
84	18	1	36	18	42	35	121	66	25	96	9	30	36	18	1	35

88	18	16	121	25	70

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

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

$7 \times 3 = \square \rightarrow \text{G}$

$7 \times 5 = \square \rightarrow \text{T}$

$6 \times 5 = \square \rightarrow \text{S}$

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

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

$1 \times 1 = \square \rightarrow \text{F}$

$6 \times 3 = \square \rightarrow \text{E}$

$11 \times 11 = \square \rightarrow \text{I}$

$12 \times 7 = \square \rightarrow \text{R}$

$2 \times 8 = \square \rightarrow \text{H}$

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

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

$7 \times 10 = \square \rightarrow \text{D}$

$12 \times 3 = \square \rightarrow \text{L}$

$6 \times 7 = \square \rightarrow \text{C}$

Scratch space:

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

We need to split the remaining power packs evenly among our patrol drones. Divide the packs so they can search the final asteroid field.

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:

$36 \div 3 = \boxed{}$

$66 \div 11 = \boxed{}$

$14 \div 7 = \boxed{}$

$15 \div 5 = \boxed{}$

$55 \div 11 = \boxed{}$

$90 \div 9 = \boxed{}$

$1 \div 1 = \boxed{}$

$55 \div 5 = \boxed{}$

$84 \div 12 = \boxed{}$

$12 \div 3 = \boxed{}$

$96 \div 12 = \boxed{}$

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain blocked the security gate with a plasma shield, then cracked the safe with a purple beam.
2. The villain zoomed away using a jetpack, then zapped the lock with a red beam.
3. The villain dashed forward with laser boots, then melted the vault with a blue beam.
4. The villain floated over the lasers with a gravity belt, then cracked the safe with a purple beam.
5. The villain zoomed away using a jetpack, then melted the vault with a blue beam.
6. The villain climbed the metal walls with magnetic gloves, then melted the vault with a blue beam.
7. The villain climbed the metal walls with magnetic gloves, then cracked the safe with a purple beam.
8. The villain climbed the metal walls with magnetic gloves, then scrambled the cameras with a green beam.
9. The villain blocked the security gate with a plasma shield, then zapped the lock with a red beam.
10. The villain dashed forward with laser boots, then scrambled the cameras with a green beam.
11. The villain dashed forward with laser boots, then lit up the dark hall with a yellow beam.
12. The villain climbed the metal walls with magnetic gloves, then lit up the dark hall with a yellow beam.

Answer Key

The Mars Seed Heist

Culprit: Sally Ride

Plasma Shield · Red Beam · Right Handed · Silver Tint · Solar Flares

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 14 → Clue 2 8 → Clue 3 5 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Rounding): "THE BANDIT DOES NOT USE A PURPLE BEAM"

Round 8,145 to the nearest thousand = 8000 (T) · Round 5,773 to the nearest thousand = 6000 (D) · Round 489 to the nearest hundred = 500 (O) · Round 18 to the nearest ten = 20 (H) · Round 80 to the nearest ten = 80 (R) · Round 93 to the nearest ten = 90 (E) · Round 408 to the nearest hundred = 400 (N) · Round 308 to the nearest hundred = 300 (L) · Round 2,456 to the nearest thousand = 2000 (I) · Round 43 to the nearest ten = 40 (M) · Round 4,202 to the nearest thousand = 4000 (U) · Round 3,444 to the nearest thousand = 3000 (P) · Round 64 to the nearest ten = 60 (B) · Round 910 to the nearest hundred = 900 (A) · Round 736 to the nearest hundred = 700 (S)

Clue 2 (Addition): "THE RIGHT HAND GRABBED THE CONTROLS"

$633 + 316 = 949$ (T) · $154 + 77 = 231$ (A) · $384 + 378 = 762$ (O) · $69 + 148 = 217$ (G) · $272 + 160 = 432$ (H) · $202 + 268 = 470$ (I) · $515 + 261 = 776$ (R) · $530 + 418 = 948$ (S) · $310 + 376 = 686$ (C) · $113 + 91 = 204$ (L) · $119 + 102 = 221$ (N) · $249 + 466 = 715$ (B) · $361 + 419 = 780$ (D) · $126 + 222 = 348$ (E)

Clue 3 (Subtraction): "A BRIGHT SOLAR FLARE BLINDED THE FOE"

$917 - 210 = 707$ (A) · $857 - 343 = 514$ (R) · $817 - 219 = 598$ (O) · $453 - 165 = 288$ (I) · $471 - 124 = 347$ (T) · $793 - 111 = 682$ (S) · $1062 - 321 = 741$ (N) · $683 - 191 = 492$ (B) · $397 - 52 = 345$ (F) · $901 - 305 = 596$ (L) · $784 - 343 = 441$ (G) · $407 - 166 = 241$ (H) · $1012 - 206 = 806$ (E) · $754 - 103 = 651$ (D)

Clue 4 (Multiplication facts (1-12)): "A BRIGHT SILVER REFLECTION WAS LEFT BEHIND"

$1 \times 9 = 9$ (A) · $11 \times 8 = 88$ (B) · $7 \times 3 = 21$ (G) · $7 \times 5 = 35$ (T) · $6 \times 5 = 30$ (S) · $11 \times 6 = 66$ (O) · $9 \times 9 = 81$ (V) · $1 \times 1 = 1$ (F) · $6 \times 3 = 18$ (E) · $11 \times 11 = 121$ (I) · $12 \times 7 = 84$ (R) · $2 \times 8 = 16$ (H) · $5 \times 5 = 25$ (N) · $8 \times 12 = 96$ (W) · $7 \times 10 = 70$ (D) · $12 \times 3 = 36$ (L) · $6 \times 7 = 42$ (C)

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

$36 \div 3 = 12$ · $66 \div 11 = 6$ · $14 \div 7 = 2$ · $15 \div 5 = 3$ · $55 \div 11 = 5$ · $90 \div 9 = 10$ · $1 \div 1 = 1$ · $55 \div 5 = 11$ · $84 \div 12 = 7$ · $12 \div 3 = 4$ · $96 \div 12 = 8$