

The Pirate Island Mystery

Grade 1 math · Addition, Subtraction, Skip counting, Place value, Missing addends · Reading level grades 1-2

Detective: _____ Date: _____

Oh no! A sneaky pirate took the golden telescope from the lighthouse keeper. We must look for clues on the beach to find the thief!

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 sneaky pirate is _____

Possible suspects

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

NAME	PIRATE TOOL	PET FRIEND	HAND USED	HAT COLOR	FEAR
Salty Sam	iron compass	green parrot	left handed	blue scarf	scared of spiders
Captain Charles	wooden peg	grey rat	left handed	black tricorn	scared of frogs
Captain Kidd	map scroll	grey rat	right handed	red bandanna	scared of frogs
Blackbeard	shiny hook	green parrot	right handed	red bandanna	scared of frogs
Jolly Roger	wooden peg	little monkey	right handed	black tricorn	scared of frogs
Anne Bonny	wooden peg	green parrot	right handed	red bandanna	scared of frogs
Calico Jack	map scroll	sleepy cat	left handed	black tricorn	scared of frogs
Woodes Rogers	shiny hook	sleepy cat	right handed	black tricorn	scared of crabs
Pegleg Pete	iron compass	green parrot	right handed	blue scarf	scared of frogs
Redbeard	brass spyglass	white gull	right handed	red bandanna	scared of frogs
Sadie Goat	map scroll	green parrot	right handed	blue scarf	scared of crabs
Mary Read	shiny hook	white gull	left handed	blue scarf	scared of crabs
Captain Hook	map scroll	white gull	left handed	blue scarf	scared of spiders
Stede Bonnet	shiny hook	white gull	left handed	red bandanna	scared of frogs
Grace O Malley	iron compass	little monkey	right handed	red bandanna	scared of spiders
Captain Flint	brass spyglass	little monkey	right handed	black tricorn	scared of crabs
Billy Bones	shiny hook	sleepy cat	right handed	black tricorn	scared of frogs
Barnaby Blue	iron compass	green parrot	right handed	red bandanna	scared of crabs
Henry Morgan	brass spyglass	grey rat	left handed	red bandanna	scared of crabs
Long John	brass spyglass	little monkey	right handed	red bandanna	scared of frogs
Edward Low	map scroll	grey rat	right handed	blue scarf	scared of frogs

CLUE 1 Addition

We need to count the pirate flags on the ship. Let us add the flags on the front and the flags on the back.

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

T																			
16	9	17	12	5	17	7	11	6	10	2	14	7	16	17	20	4	17	12	
		T																	
5	4	16	9	7	3	17	7	19	14	17	6	14	7	16					

$9 + 7 = \square \rightarrow$ T	$2 + 2 = \square \rightarrow$ O	$1 + 4 = \square \rightarrow$ N	$1 + 2 = \square \rightarrow$ V
$12 + 7 = \square \rightarrow$ G	$5 + 6 = \square \rightarrow$ K	$7 + 10 = \square \rightarrow$ E	
$6 + 6 = \square \rightarrow$ S	$5 + 9 = \square \rightarrow$ R	$6 + 3 = \square \rightarrow$ H	$3 + 7 = \square \rightarrow$ P
$12 + 8 = \square \rightarrow$ D	$5 + 1 = \square \rightarrow$ Y	$4 + 3 = \square \rightarrow$ A	$1 + 1 = \square \rightarrow$ I

Scratch space:

CLUE 2

Subtraction

The pirates ate some of their sweet coconuts. Subtract the eaten food to see how many coconuts are left.

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

T 11	4	17	13	5	16	6	T 11	17	4	17	18	12	T 11	4	17	2	6	13
5	3	T 11	4	17	5	16	16	5	9	4	T 11	4	6	3	12			

$15 - 4 =$

→

T

$10 - 6 =$

→

H

$14 - 9 =$

→

I

$8 - 2 =$

→

A

$19 - 2 =$

→

E

$17 - 8 =$

→

G

$18 - 5 =$

→

P

$17 - 1 =$

→

R

$20 - 2 =$

→

L

$3 - 1 =$

→

M

$11 - 8 =$

→

N

$15 - 3 =$

→

D

Scratch space:

CLUE 3 Skip counting

Let us count the gold coins in the treasure chest. We can count them by fives to find the total fast.

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

A																	
30	140	9	55	55	15	39	50	12	12	70	15	140	120	9	50	140	
		A															
27	8	30	9	55	65	6	39	55	6	39	70	55	120				

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

Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, __, 130, 140 → **F**

Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, __, 12, 15 → **R**

Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, __, 8, 10 → **T**

Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, __, 70, 75 → **D**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

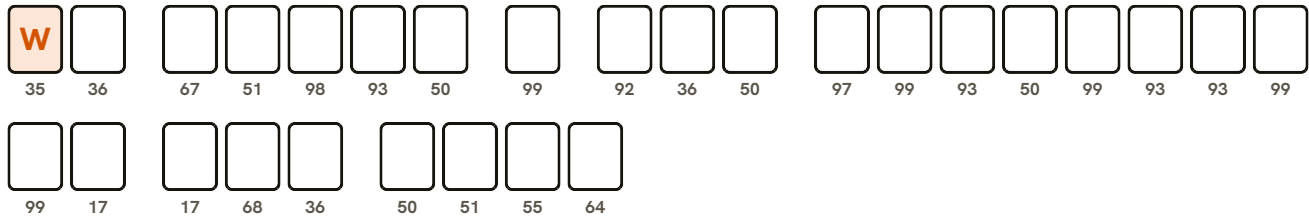
Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, __, 10, 12 →

Scratch space:

CLUE 4 Place value

Look at the shiny pearl boxes. Each big box has ten pearls and there are some loose pearls left over.

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



What number has 3 tens and 5 ones? → **W**

What number has 9 tens and 7 ones? → **B**

What number has 5 tens and 1 one? → **O**

What number has 9 tens and 8 ones? → **U**

What number has 9 tens and 9 ones? → **A**

What number has 1 ten and 7 ones? → **T**

What number has 6 tens and 4 ones? → **K**

What number has 6 tens and 8 ones? → **H**

What number has 9 tens and 3 ones? → **N**

What number has 5 tens and 5 ones? → **C**

What number has 3 tens and 6 ones? → **E**

What number has 5 tens and 0 ones? → **D**

What number has 9 tens and 2 ones? → **R**

What number has 6 tens and 7 ones? → **F**

Scratch space:

CLUE 5**Missing addends - the last clue**

We need ten keys to open the gate. We have some keys already. How many more keys do we need to find?

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:

$6 + \underline{\quad} = 13$

$9 + \underline{\quad} = 18$

$5 + \underline{\quad} = 11$

$2 + \underline{\quad} = 5$

$5 + \underline{\quad} = 13$

$2 + \underline{\quad} = 7$

$2 + \underline{\quad} = 3$

$5 + \underline{\quad} = 16$

$4 + \underline{\quad} = 8$

$9 + \underline{\quad} = 19$

$8 + \underline{\quad} = 10$

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain tapped a wooden peg, then chased a grey rat.
2. The villain checked an iron compass, then pet a little monkey.
3. The villain rolled up a map scroll, then pet a little monkey.
4. The villain rolled up a map scroll, then called a white gull.
5. The villain checked an iron compass, then fed a green parrot.
6. The villain tapped a wooden peg, then fed a green parrot.
7. The villain swung a shiny hook, then fed a green parrot.
8. The villain peered through a brass spyglass, then fed a green parrot.
9. The villain peered through a brass spyglass, then called a white gull.
10. The villain peered through a brass spyglass, then chased a grey rat.
11. The villain swung a shiny hook, then chased a grey rat.
12. The villain peered through a brass spyglass, then pet a little monkey.

Answer Key

The Pirate Island Mystery

Culprit: Long John

brass spyglass · little monkey · right handed · red bandanna · scared of frogs

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 17 → Clue 2 12 → Clue 3 7 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Addition): "THE SNEAKY PIRATE DOES NOT HAVE A GREY RAT"

$9 + 7 = 16$ (T) · $2 + 2 = 4$ (O) · $1 + 4 = 5$ (N) · $1 + 2 = 3$ (V) · $12 + 7 = 19$ (G) · $5 + 6 = 11$ (K) · $7 + 10 = 17$ (E) · $6 + 6 = 12$ (S) · $5 + 9 = 14$ (R) · $6 + 3 = 9$ (H) · $3 + 7 = 10$ (P) · $12 + 8 = 20$ (D) · $5 + 1 = 6$ (Y) · $4 + 3 = 7$ (A) · $1 + 1 = 2$ (I)

Clue 2 (Subtraction): "THE PIRATE HELD THE MAP IN THEIR RIGHT HAND"

$15 - 4 = 11$ (T) · $10 - 6 = 4$ (H) · $14 - 9 = 5$ (I) · $8 - 2 = 6$ (A) · $19 - 2 = 17$ (E) · $17 - 8 = 9$ (G) · $18 - 5 = 13$ (P) · $17 - 1 = 16$ (R) · $20 - 2 = 18$ (L) · $3 - 1 = 2$ (M) · $11 - 8 = 3$ (N) · $15 - 3 = 12$ (D)

Clue 3 (Skip counting): "A GREEN HOPPING FROG SCARED THE THIEF"

Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, __, 33, 36 = 30 (A) · Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, __, 130, 140 = 120 (F) · Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, __, 12, 15 = 9 (R) · Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, __, 8, 10 = 6 (T) · Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, __, 70, 75 = 65 (D) · Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, __, 18, 21 = 15 (N) · Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, __, 75, 80 = 70 (I) · Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, __, 15, 18 = 12 (P) · Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, __, 60, 70 = 50 (O) · Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, __, 60, 65 = 55 (E) · Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, 120, 130, __, 150, 160 = 140 (G) · Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, 33, 36, __, 42, 45 = 39 (H) · Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, __, 30, 33 = 27 (S) · Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, __, 10, 12 = 8 (C)

Clue 4 (Place value): "WE FOUND A RED BANDANNA AT THE DOCK"

What number has 3 tens and 5 ones? = 35 (W) · What number has 9 tens and 7 ones? = 97 (B) · What number has 5 tens and 1 one? = 51 (O) · What number has 9 tens and 8 ones? = 98 (U) · What number has 9 tens and 9 ones? = 99 (A) · What number has 1 ten and 7 ones? = 17 (T) · What number has 6 tens and 4 ones? = 64 (K) · What number has 6 tens and 8 ones? = 68 (H) · What number has 9 tens and 3 ones? = 93 (N) · What number has 5 tens and 5 ones? = 55 (C) · What number has 3 tens and 6 ones? = 36 (E) · What number has 5 tens and 0 ones? = 50 (D) · What number has 9 tens and 2 ones? = 92 (R) · What number has 6 tens and 7 ones? = 67 (F)

Clue 5 (Missing addends): surviving statement is box 12 → Long John

$6 + \underline{\quad} = 13 = 7$ · $9 + \underline{\quad} = 18 = 9$ · $5 + \underline{\quad} = 11 = 6$ · $2 + \underline{\quad} = 5 = 3$ · $5 + \underline{\quad} = 13 = 8$ · $2 + \underline{\quad} = 7 = 5$ · $2 + \underline{\quad} = 3 = 1$ · $5 + \underline{\quad} = 16 = 11$ · $4 + \underline{\quad} = 8 = 4$ · $9 + \underline{\quad} = 19 = 10$ · $8 + \underline{\quad} = 10 = 2$