The Case of the Missing Championship Trophy

Grade 1 math · Addition, Subtraction, Skip counting, Place value, Missing addends · Reading level grades 3-4

Detective: _____ **Date:** _____

The grand championship trophy vanished right before the final buzzer at Hoop City Arena! Someone sneaked onto the court during halftime and swapped the shiny cup with a squeaky rubber duck. Help the referee squad crack the code and find out who took the trophy!

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 Trophy Bandit is _____

Possible suspects

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

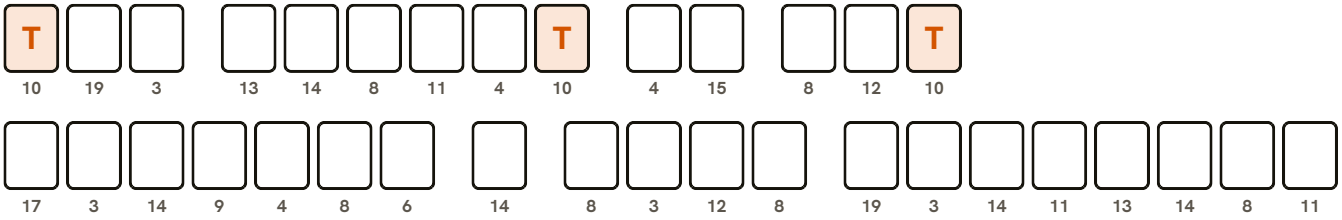
NAME	SIGNATURE MOVE	LUCKY GEAR	DRIBBLE HAND	HAIRSTYLE	DEFENSIVE WEAKNESS
Sabrina Ionescu	Fast Break Spin	Golden Whistle	Left Handed Dribbler	Braided Cornrows	Double Team Trap
Kevin Durant	Alley Oop Dunk	High Top Kicks	Left Handed Dribbler	Buzz Cut	Double Team Trap
Damian Lillard	Fast Break Spin	Striped Wristband	Right Handed Dribbler	Buzz Cut	Full Court Press
Sue Bird	Fast Break Spin	Neon Headband	Right Handed Dribbler	Curly High Top	Charge Block
Kobe Bryant	Fast Break Spin	Golden Whistle	Right Handed Dribbler	Curly High Top	Charge Block
Diana Taurasi	Half Court Hook	Golden Whistle	Left Handed Dribbler	Curly High Top	Charge Block
Caitlin Clark	Crossover Dribble	Padded Arm Sleeve	Left Handed Dribbler	Braided Cornrows	Charge Block
Aja Wilson	No Look Pass	Padded Arm Sleeve	Right Handed Dribbler	Braided Cornrows	Charge Block
Michael Jordan	Fast Break Spin	High Top Kicks	Right Handed Dribbler	Buzz Cut	Charge Block
Maya Moore	No Look Pass	Padded Arm Sleeve	Left Handed Dribbler	Buzz Cut	Double Team Trap
Candace Parker	No Look Pass	High Top Kicks	Left Handed Dribbler	Curly High Top	Charge Block
Kyrie Irving	Alley Oop Dunk	Golden Whistle	Right Handed Dribbler	Buzz Cut	Double Team Trap
Jimmy Butler	Fast Break Spin	Striped Wristband	Right Handed Dribbler	Braided Cornrows	Charge Block
LeBron James	No Look Pass	High Top Kicks	Right Handed Dribbler	Braided Cornrows	Charge Block
Steph Curry	Half Court Hook	Striped Wristband	Left Handed Dribbler	Curly High Top	Charge Block
Jayson Tatum	Crossover Dribble	Padded Arm Sleeve	Left Handed Dribbler	Buzz Cut	Charge Block
Nikola Jokic	Alley Oop Dunk	Golden Whistle	Right Handed Dribbler	Braided Cornrows	Charge Block
Shaquille ONeal	Fast Break Spin	Golden Whistle	Right Handed Dribbler	Braided Cornrows	Double Team Trap
Devin Booker	No Look Pass	High Top Kicks	Left Handed Dribbler	Braided Cornrows	Charge Block
Anthony Davis	No Look Pass	Neon Headband	Right Handed Dribbler	Braided Cornrows	Charge Block
Giannis Antetokounmpo	Half Court Hook	Padded Arm Sleeve	Left Handed Dribbler	Curly High Top	Charge Block

make your own at mathcrackers.com

CLUE 1 Addition

Coach Maya totals up all the practice basketballs in the rack to reveal the first suspect note.

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



5 + 5 = ☐ → T

6 + 2 = ☐ → N

1 + 2 = ☐ → E

7 + 4 = ☐ → D

9 + 6 = ☐ → S

5 + 4 = ☐ → R

11 + 6 = ☐ → W

5 + 7 = ☐ → O

3 + 1 = ☐ → I

4 + 10 = ☐ → A

3 + 3 = ☐ → G

14 + 5 = ☐ → H

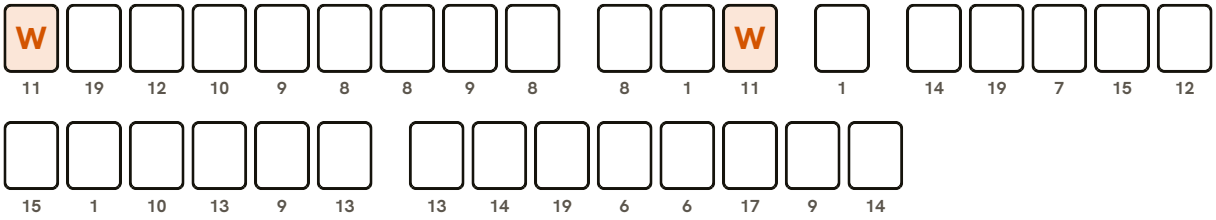
3 + 10 = ☐ → B

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Subtraction

Ref Sam subtracts the popped basketballs from the gym stack to uncover a hidden message.

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



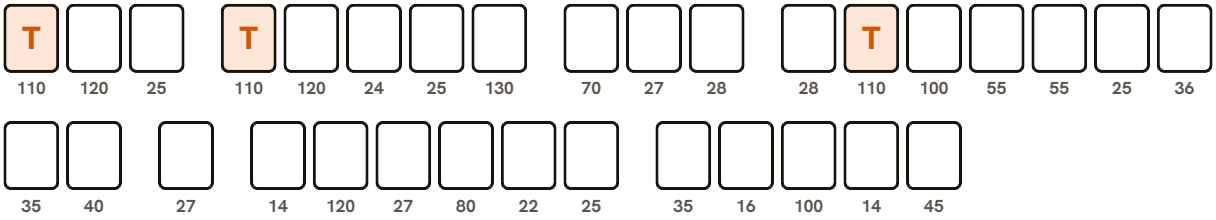
14 - 3 = ☐ → W	20 - 1 = ☐ → I	5 - 4 = ☐ → A	19 - 6 = ☐ → D
18 - 8 = ☐ → N	19 - 2 = ☐ → L	17 - 5 = ☐ → T	
13 - 6 = ☐ → G	15 - 9 = ☐ → B	15 - 6 = ☐ → E	
17 - 9 = ☐ → S	20 - 6 = ☐ → R	20 - 5 = ☐ → H	

Scratch space:

CLUE 3 Skip counting

The squad skip counts the shiny trophy cases by twos down the hall to decode the next clue.

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, 80, 90, 100, ___, 120, 130 ☐ → **T**

Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, ___, 16, 18 ☐ → **C**

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

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

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

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

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

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

Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, ___, 18, 20 ☐ → **L**

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

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

Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, ___, 30, 35 ☐ → **E**

Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, ___, 50, 60 ☐ → **Y**

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

Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, ___, 26, 28 ☐ → **I**

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

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

Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, ___, 80, 90 ☐ → **W**

Scratch space:

CLUE 4

Place value

Detective Jordan reads the digital scoreboard numbers to find the tens and ones in the gym vault code.

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

A			A						A				A						
21	99	13	21	11	46	71	56	13	21	15	46	51	21	64	66				

						A													
30	13	77	64	99	13	21	11	46	66	46	51	77	13	15	13	77	40	71	

What number has 2 tens and 1 one? ☐ → A

What number has 9 tens and 9 ones? ☐ → B

What number has 7 tens and 1 one? ☐ → S

What number has 4 tens and 0 ones? ☐ → W

What number has 1 ten and 3 ones? ☐ → R

What number has 7 tens and 7 ones? ☐ → O

What number has 5 tens and 6 ones? ☐ → T

What number has 3 tens and 0 ones? ☐ → F

What number has 6 tens and 6 ones? ☐ → E

What number has 1 ten and 5 ones? ☐ → N

What number has 1 ten and 1 one? ☐ → I

What number has 5 tens and 1 one? ☐ → C

What number has 6 tens and 4 ones? ☐ → M

What number has 4 tens and 6 ones? ☐ → D

Scratch space:

CLUE 5 Missing addends - the last clue

Rookie Alex needs ten game cones and finds the missing amount to unlock the final evidence locker.

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:

3 + ___ = 5 ☐	5 + ___ = 11 ☐	8 + ___ = 19 ☐	7 + ___ = 11 ☐
4 + ___ = 5 ☐	6 + ___ = 16 ☐	6 + ___ = 14 ☐	5 + ___ = 12 ☐
4 + ___ = 13 ☐	8 + ___ = 13 ☐	6 + ___ = 9 ☐	

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain faked a no look pass, then adjusted the neon headband.
2. The villain faked a no look pass, then pulled up the padded arm sleeve.
3. The villain threw an alley oop dunk, then laced up high top kicks.
4. The villain spun on a fast break spin, then laced up high top kicks.
5. The villain sank a half court hook, then laced up high top kicks.
6. The villain threw an alley oop dunk, then blew the golden whistle.
7. The villain faked a no look pass, then wiped off the striped wristband.
8. The villain executed a crossover dribble, then wiped off the striped wristband.
9. The villain threw an alley oop dunk, then adjusted the neon headband.
10. The villain spun on a fast break spin, then pulled up the padded arm sleeve.
11. The villain faked a no look pass, then laced up high top kicks.
12. The villain spun on a fast break spin, then wiped off the striped wristband.

TEACHER / PARENT

Answer Key

The Case of the Missing Championship Trophy

Culprit: Jimmy Butler

Fast Break Spin · Striped Wristband · Right Handed Dribbler · Braided Cornrows · Charge Block

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 19 → Clue 2 9 → Clue 3 6 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Addition): "THE BANDIT IS NOT WEARING A NEON HEADBAND"

5 + 5 = 10 (T) · 6 + 2 = 8 (N) · 1 + 2 = 3 (E) · 7 + 4 = 11 (D) · 9 + 6 = 15 (S) · 5 + 4 = 9 (R) · 11 + 6 = 17 (W) · 5 + 7 = 12 (O) · 3 + 1 = 4 (I) · 4 + 10 = 14 (A) · 3 + 3 = 6 (G) · 14 + 5 = 19 (H) · 3 + 10 = 13 (B)

Clue 2 (Subtraction): "WITNESSES SAW A RIGHT HANDED DRIBBLER"

14 - 3 = 11 (W) · 20 - 1 = 19 (I) · 5 - 4 = 1 (A) · 19 - 6 = 13 (D) · 18 - 8 = 10 (N) · 19 - 2 = 17 (L) · 17 - 5 = 12 (T) · 13 - 6 = 7 (G) · 15 - 9 = 6 (B) · 15 - 6 = 9 (E) · 17 - 9 = 8 (S) · 20 - 6 = 14 (R) · 20 - 5 = 15 (H)

Clue 3 (Skip counting): "THE THIEF WAS STOPPED BY A CHARGE BLOCK"

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

Clue 4 (Place value): "A BRAID STRAND CAME FROM BRAIDED CORNROWS"

What number has 2 tens and 1 one? = 21 (A) · What number has 9 tens and 9 ones? = 99 (B) · What number has 7 tens and 1 one? = 71 (S) · What number has 4 tens and 0 ones? = 40 (W) · What number has 1 ten and 3 ones? = 13 (R) · What number has 7 tens and 7 ones? = 77 (O) · What number has 5 tens and 6 ones? = 56 (T) · What number has 3 tens and 0 ones? = 30 (F) · What number has 6 tens and 6 ones? = 66 (E) · What number has 1 ten and 5 ones? = 15 (N) · What number has 1 ten and 1 one? = 11 (I) · What number has 5 tens and 1 one? = 51 (C) · What number has 6 tens and 4 ones? = 64 (M) · What number has 4 tens and 6 ones? = 46 (D)

Clue 5 (Missing addends): surviving statement is box 12 → Jimmy Butler

3 + ___ = 5 = 2 · 5 + ___ = 11 = 6 · 8 + ___ = 19 = 11 · 7 + ___ = 11 = 4 · 4 + ___ = 5 = 1 · 6 + ___ = 16 = 10 · 6 + ___ = 14 = 8 · 5 + ___ = 12 = 7 · 4 + ___ = 13 = 9 · 8 + ___ = 13 = 5 · 6 + ___ = 9 = 3