The Case of the Missing Championship Trophy

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

Detective: _____ **Date:** _____

The championship trophy vanished right before tip-off at Hoop Town Arena! Coach Maya needs your help to search the locker rooms and decode the clue notes before the big game ends.

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 Thief is _____

Possible suspects

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

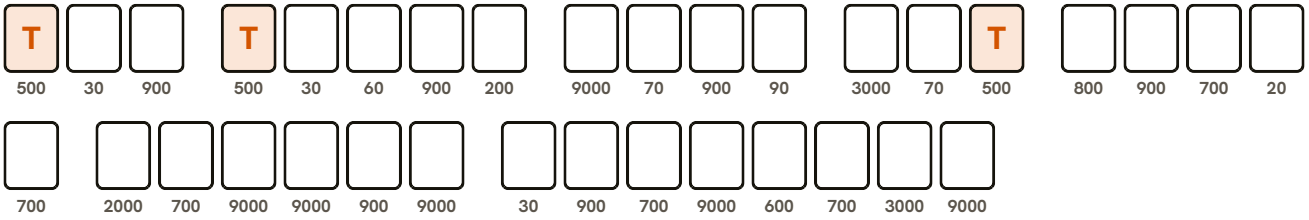
NAME	SIGNATURE MOVE	LUCKY GEAR	SHOOTING HAND	HAIRSTYLE	WEAKNESS
DeAaron Fox	Spin Move	Padded Headband	Right Handed	Buzz Cut	Loud Score Horn
Tyrese Haliburton	No Look Pass	Grip Chalk Bag	Right Handed	Braided Cornrows	Loud Score Horn
Trae Young	Euro Step	Weighted Wristband	Left Handed	Buzz Cut	Squeaky Whistle
Damian Lillard	No Look Pass	Padded Headband	Right Handed	Curly Afro	Squeaky Whistle
Giannis Antetokounmpo	Fast Break	Grip Chalk Bag	Left Handed	Buzz Cut	Loud Score Horn
Zion Williamson	Sky Hook	Weighted Wristband	Left Handed	Buzz Cut	Squeaky Whistle
Jayson Tatum	Fast Break	High Top Sneakers	Left Handed	Curly Afro	Loud Score Horn
Domantas Sabonis	Euro Step	Neon Arm Sleeve	Left Handed	Buzz Cut	Bright Mascot Mask
Pascal Siakam	No Look Pass	Grip Chalk Bag	Right Handed	Curly Afro	Squeaky Whistle
Anthony Davis	Spin Move	Weighted Wristband	Right Handed	Buzz Cut	Bright Mascot Mask
Kevin Durant	No Look Pass	Neon Arm Sleeve	Right Handed	Buzz Cut	Loud Score Horn
Bam Adebayo	No Look Pass	Grip Chalk Bag	Left Handed	Buzz Cut	Bright Mascot Mask
Shai Gilgeous Alexander	No Look Pass	High Top Sneakers	Left Handed	Buzz Cut	Bright Mascot Mask
Kawhi Leonard	Euro Step	Weighted Wristband	Left Handed	Curly Afro	Loud Score Horn
Ja Morant	No Look Pass	Grip Chalk Bag	Right Handed	Buzz Cut	Loud Score Horn
Kyrie Irving	Fast Break	Weighted Wristband	Right Handed	Curly Afro	Loud Score Horn
Jimmy Butler	Sky Hook	Grip Chalk Bag	Right Handed	Buzz Cut	Loud Score Horn
LeBron James	Sky Hook	Weighted Wristband	Right Handed	Buzz Cut	Squeaky Whistle
Devin Booker	Fast Break	Padded Headband	Left Handed	Braided Cornrows	Squeaky Whistle
Paul George	Euro Step	Grip Chalk Bag	Right Handed	Buzz Cut	Loud Score Horn
Donovan Mitchell	Euro Step	Grip Chalk Bag	Left Handed	Braided Cornrows	Loud Score Horn

make your own at mathcrackers.com

CLUE 1 Rounding

The arena scoreboard rounded the fan count to the nearest hundred, giving our first secret code.

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



Round 503 to the nearest hundred ☐ → T

Round 8,839 to the nearest thousand ☐ → D

Round 929 to the nearest hundred ☐ → E

Round 28 to the nearest ten ☐ → H

Round 753 to the nearest hundred ☐ → W

Round 607 to the nearest hundred ☐ → B

Round 58 to the nearest ten ☐ → I

Round 19 to the nearest ten ☐ → R

Round 213 to the nearest hundred ☐ → F

Round 68 to the nearest ten ☐ → O

Round 93 to the nearest ten ☐ → S

Round 2,445 to the nearest thousand ☐ → P

Round 2,845 to the nearest thousand ☐ → N

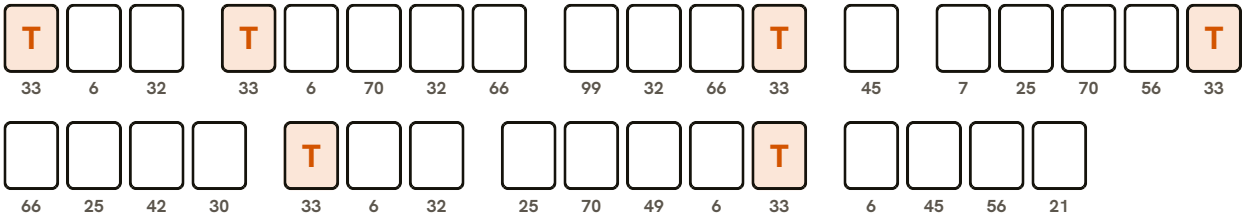
Round 730 to the nearest hundred ☐ → A

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Multiplication facts (1-12)

> Coach counted equal rows of practice basketballs near the bench to uncover the next hint.

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



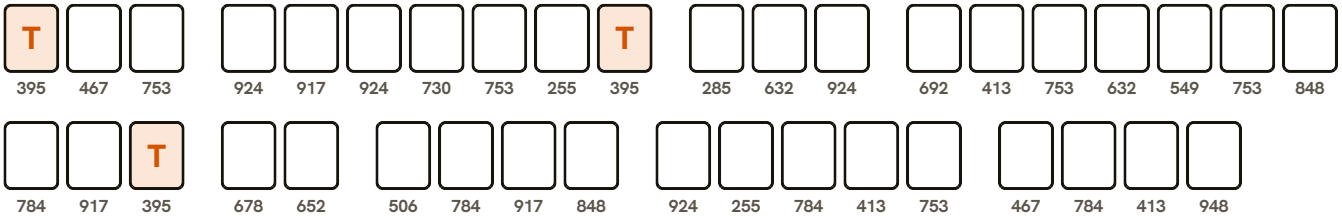
11 × 3 = ☐ → T	10 × 7 = ☐ → I	7 × 3 = ☐ → D	
7 × 7 = ☐ → G	6 × 7 = ☐ → O	1 × 6 = ☐ → H	11 × 9 = ☐ → L
5 × 5 = ☐ → R	6 × 11 = ☐ → F	8 × 7 = ☐ → N	5 × 6 = ☐ → M
9 × 5 = ☐ → A	7 × 1 = ☐ → P	4 × 8 = ☐ → E	

Scratch space:

CLUE 3 Addition

> The stat keeper added up all the quarter scores from tonight to reveal the next clue.

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



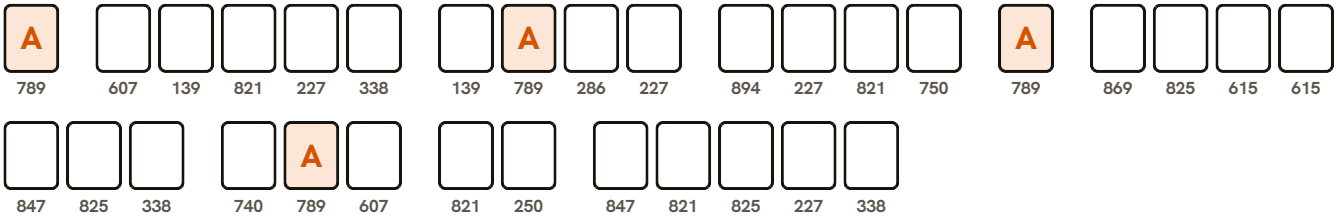
179 + 216 = ☐ → T	216 + 290 = ☐ → L	214 + 253 = ☐ → H
465 + 288 = ☐ → E	307 + 325 = ☐ → A	608 + 309 = ☐ → U
290 + 388 = ☐ → B	178 + 77 = ☐ → C	224 + 189 = ☐ → R
516 + 332 = ☐ → D	370 + 360 = ☐ → P	433 + 491 = ☐ → S
211 + 441 = ☐ → Y	331 + 453 = ☐ → O	91 + 194 = ☐ → W
334 + 215 = ☐ → K	377 + 571 = ☐ → N	375 + 317 = ☐ → F

Scratch space:

CLUE 4 Subtraction

> The court manager subtracted the missing jerseys from the rack to unlock another mystery note.

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



855 - 66 = ☐ → A

485 - 258 = ☐ → R

379 - 93 = ☐ → I

1133 - 286 = ☐ → C

415 - 165 = ☐ → N

1079 - 210 = ☐ → B

1074 - 324 = ☐ → M

1142 - 248 = ☐ → F

1093 - 353 = ☐ → W

831 - 216 = ☐ → Z

725 - 118 = ☐ → S

911 - 86 = ☐ → U

535 - 197 = ☐ → T

996 - 175 = ☐ → O

218 - 79 = ☐ → H

Scratch space:

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

> The referee split the leftover water bottles equally among the teams to crack 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:

45 ÷ 5 = ☐	44 ÷ 4 = ☐	24 ÷ 8 = ☐	66 ÷ 11 = ☐	24 ÷ 6 = ☐
3 ÷ 3 = ☐	77 ÷ 11 = ☐	10 ÷ 5 = ☐	60 ÷ 12 = ☐	70 ÷ 7 = ☐
32 ÷ 4 = ☐				

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain started a sudden fast break, then tightened their weighted wristband.
2. The villain drove with a swift euro step, then tightened their weighted wristband.
3. The villain tossed a slick no look pass, then dusted their grip chalk bag.
4. The villain drove with a swift euro step, then laced up their high top sneakers.
5. The villain executed a sneaky sky hook, then tightened their weighted wristband.
6. The villain started a sudden fast break, then adjusted their neon arm sleeve.
7. The villain drove with a swift euro step, then adjusted their neon arm sleeve.
8. The villain performed a dizzying spin move, then tightened their weighted wristband.
9. The villain executed a sneaky sky hook, then dusted their grip chalk bag.
10. The villain started a sudden fast break, then laced up their high top sneakers.
11. The villain drove with a swift euro step, then dusted their grip chalk bag.
12. The villain tossed a slick no look pass, then adjusted their neon arm sleeve.

TEACHER / PARENT

Answer Key

The Case of the Missing Championship Trophy

Culprit: Kevin Durant

No Look Pass · Neon Arm Sleeve · Right Handed · Buzz Cut · Loud Score Horn

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 18 → Clue 2 9 → Clue 3 6 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Rounding): "THE THIEF DOES NOT WEAR A PADDED HEADBAND"

Round 503 to the nearest hundred = 500 (T) · Round 8,839 to the nearest thousand = 9000 (D) · Round 929 to the nearest hundred = 900 (E) · Round 28 to the nearest ten = 30 (H) · Round 753 to the nearest hundred = 800 (W) · Round 607 to the nearest hundred = 600 (B) · Round 58 to the nearest ten = 60 (I) · Round 19 to the nearest ten = 20 (R) · Round 213 to the nearest hundred = 200 (F) · Round 68 to the nearest ten = 70 (O) · Round 93 to the nearest ten = 90 (S) · Round 2,445 to the nearest thousand = 2000 (P) · Round 2,845 to the nearest thousand = 3000 (N) · Round 730 to the nearest hundred = 700 (A)

Clue 2 (Multiplication facts (1-12)): "THE THIEF LEFT A PRINT FROM THE RIGHT HAND"

11 × 3 = 33 (T) · 10 × 7 = 70 (I) · 7 × 3 = 21 (D) · 7 × 7 = 49 (G) · 6 × 7 = 42 (O) · 1 × 6 = 6 (H) · 11 × 9 = 99 (L) · 5 × 5 = 25 (R) · 6 × 11 = 66 (F) · 8 × 7 = 56 (N) · 5 × 6 = 30 (M) · 9 × 5 = 45 (A) · 7 × 1 = 7 (P) · 4 × 8 = 32 (E)

Clue 3 (Addition): "THE SUSPECT WAS FREAKED OUT BY LOUD SCORE HORN"

179 + 216 = 395 (T) · 216 + 290 = 506 (L) · 214 + 253 = 467 (H) · 465 + 288 = 753 (E) · 307 + 325 = 632 (A) · 608 + 309 = 917 (U) · 290 + 388 = 678 (B) · 178 + 77 = 255 (C) · 224 + 189 = 413 (R) · 516 + 332 = 848 (D) · 370 + 360 = 730 (P) · 433 + 491 = 924 (S) · 211 + 441 = 652 (Y) · 331 + 453 = 784 (O) · 91 + 194 = 285 (W) · 334 + 215 = 549 (K) · 377 + 571 = 948 (N) · 375 + 317 = 692 (F)

Clue 4 (Subtraction): "A SHORT HAIR FROM A BUZZ CUT WAS ON COURT"

855 - 66 = 789 (A) · 485 - 258 = 227 (R) · 379 - 93 = 286 (I) · 1133 - 286 = 847 (C) · 415 - 165 = 250 (N) · 1079 - 210 = 869 (B) · 1074 - 324 = 750 (M) · 1142 - 248 = 894 (F) · 1093 - 353 = 740 (W) · 831 - 216 = 615 (Z) · 725 - 118 = 607 (S) · 911 - 86 = 825 (U) · 535 - 197 = 338 (T) · 996 - 175 = 821 (O) · 218 - 79 = 139 (H)

Clue 5 (Division facts (1-12)): surviving statement is box 12 → Kevin Durant

45 ÷ 5 = 9 · 44 ÷ 4 = 11 · 24 ÷ 8 = 3 · 66 ÷ 11 = 6 · 24 ÷ 6 = 4 · 3 ÷ 3 = 1 · 77 ÷ 11 = 7 · 10 ÷ 5 = 2 · 60 ÷ 12 = 5 · 70 ÷ 7 = 10 · 32 ÷ 4 = 8