The Case of the Missing Gold Cup

Grade 1 math · Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication, Skip counting, Division · Reading level grades 1-2

Detective: _____ **Date:** _____

The shiny championship cup vanished from the locker room right before kickoff! Coach Clara needs your help to follow the clues, catch the sneaky culprit, and save the big match.

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 Sly Striker is _____

Possible suspects

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

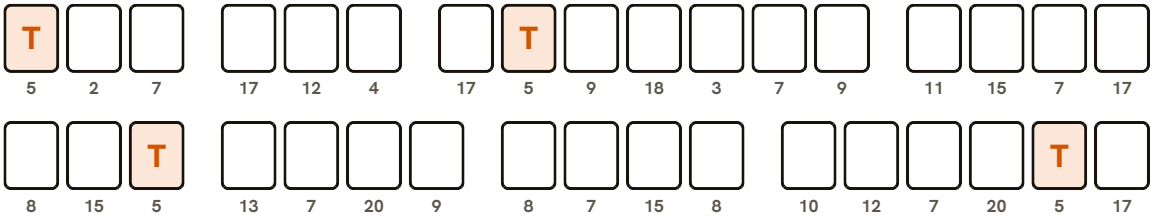
NAME	SPECIAL MOVE	LUCKY GEAR	STANCE	HEADBAND	DISTRACTION
Leo Messi	Bicycle Kick	Captains Band	Left Footed	Blue Headband	Loud Horn
Alex Morgan	Header Shot	Golden Shin Guards	Right Footed	Blue Headband	Squeaky Whistle
Rose Lavelle	Header Shot	Striped Socks	Right Footed	Blue Headband	Squeaky Whistle
Cristiano Ronaldo	Header Shot	Striped Socks	Left Footed	Red Headband	Squeaky Whistle
Pele	Bicycle Kick	Captains Band	Left Footed	Blue Headband	Squeaky Whistle
Mia Hamm	Bicycle Kick	Neon Cleats	Right Footed	Blue Headband	Bright Mascot
Neymar Jr	Bicycle Kick	Captains Band	Right Footed	Red Headband	Loud Horn
Alisha Lehmann	Rocket Pass	Captains Band	Left Footed	Blue Headband	Bright Mascot
Kylian Mbappe	Curve Ball	Striped Socks	Right Footed	Green Headband	Squeaky Whistle
Sam Kerr	Curve Ball	Neon Cleats	Right Footed	Green Headband	Squeaky Whistle
Trinity Rodman	Curve Ball	Golden Shin Guards	Right Footed	Red Headband	Squeaky Whistle
Jack Grealish	Rocket Pass	Captains Band	Left Footed	Red Headband	Loud Horn
Virgil VanDijk	Header Shot	Golden Shin Guards	Left Footed	Green Headband	Bright Mascot
Mohamed Salah	Rocket Pass	Golden Shin Guards	Right Footed	Green Headband	Squeaky Whistle
Kevin DeBruyne	Rocket Pass	Neon Cleats	Left Footed	Blue Headband	Squeaky Whistle
Megan Rapinoe	Rocket Pass	Striped Socks	Left Footed	Green Headband	Bright Mascot
Bukayo Saka	Header Shot	Captains Band	Right Footed	Green Headband	Bright Mascot
Sophia Smith	Header Shot	Striped Socks	Right Footed	Green Headband	Squeaky Whistle
Cole Palmer	Bicycle Kick	Captains Band	Right Footed	Green Headband	Squeaky Whistle
Luka Modric	Power Slide	Neon Cleats	Right Footed	Green Headband	Squeaky Whistle
Erling Haaland	Power Slide	Captains Band	Left Footed	Green Headband	Squeaky Whistle

make your own at mathcrackers.com

CLUE 1 Addition

Coach Clara added up all the soccer balls in the equipment bags to get a clue.

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



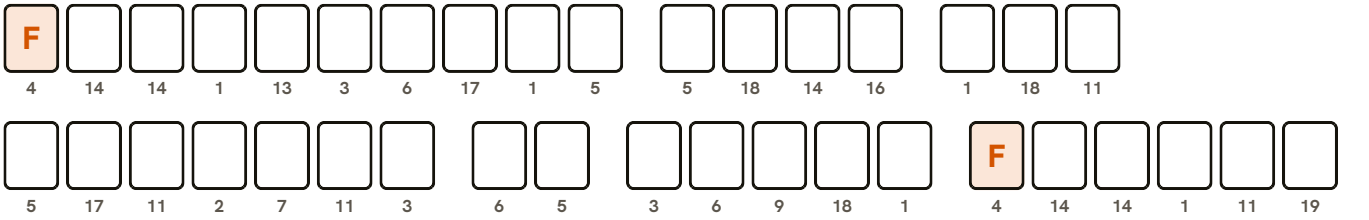
3 + 2 = ☐ → T	3 + 4 = ☐ → E	6 + 7 = ☐ → W	4 + 8 = ☐ → L
1 + 1 = ☐ → H	3 + 5 = ☐ → N	9 + 8 = ☐ → S	1 + 2 = ☐ → K
5 + 10 = ☐ → O	1 + 3 = ☐ → Y	12 + 6 = ☐ → I	
8 + 3 = ☐ → D	14 + 6 = ☐ → A	2 + 7 = ☐ → R	4 + 6 = ☐ → C

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Subtraction

Coach Clara counted the cones left on the grass after drill time to spot a secret note.

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



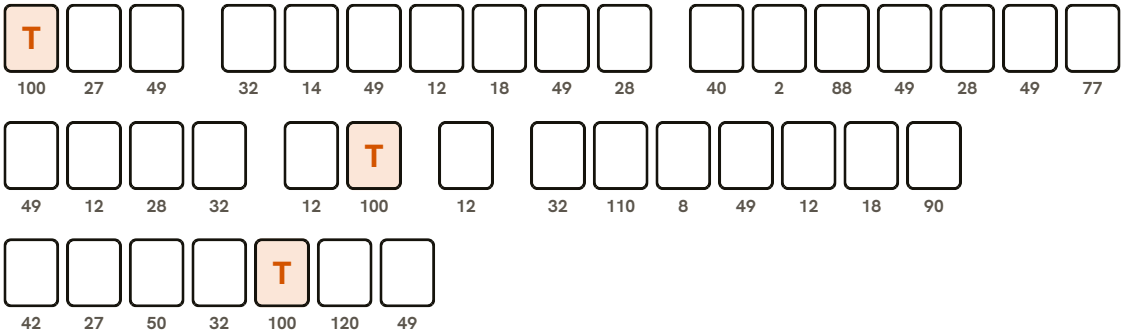
12 - 8 = ☐ → F	5 - 2 = ☐ → R	14 - 8 = ☐ → I	14 - 3 = ☐ → E
19 - 5 = ☐ → O	19 - 1 = ☐ → H	14 - 9 = ☐ → S	
10 - 9 = ☐ → T	9 - 2 = ☐ → K	20 - 3 = ☐ → N	20 - 1 = ☐ → D
7 - 5 = ☐ → A	13 - 4 = ☐ → G	17 - 4 = ☐ → P	19 - 3 = ☐ → W

Scratch space:

CLUE 3 Multiplication facts (1-12)

Coach Clara checked equal rows of water bottles on the bench to open a mystery locker.

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



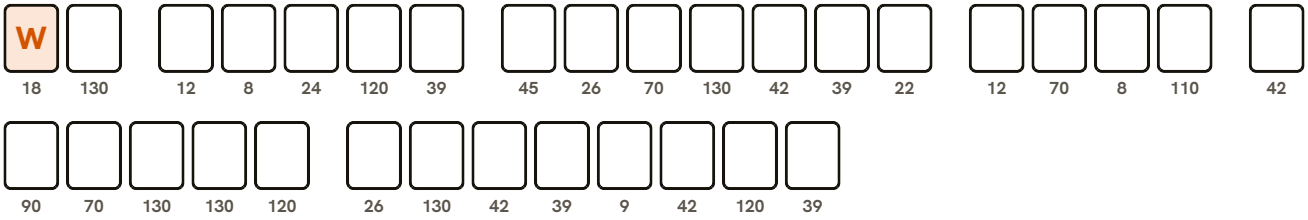
10 × 10 = ☐ → T	9 × 10 = ☐ → Y	4 × 7 = ☐ → R			
10 × 11 = ☐ → Q	3 × 4 = ☐ → A	7 × 7 = ☐ → E			
10 × 12 = ☐ → L	5 × 10 = ☐ → I	8 × 5 = ☐ → C			
11 × 7 = ☐ → D	2 × 1 = ☐ → O	6 × 7 = ☐ → W	9 × 3 = ☐ → H		
7 × 2 = ☐ → N	8 × 4 = ☐ → S	8 × 1 = ☐ → U	3 × 6 = ☐ → K		
11 × 8 = ☐ → V					

Scratch space:

CLUE 4 Skip counting

Coach Clara skip counted the jerseys on the rack by twos to read the bench code.

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



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

Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, ___, 12, 15 ☐ → **B**

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

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

Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, ___, 120, 130 ☐ → **M**

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

Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, ___, 14, 16 ☐ → **F**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Scratch space:

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

> Coach Clara split the practice snacks into equal piles to decode 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:

5 ÷ 1 = ☐	27 ÷ 3 = ☐	11 ÷ 11 = ☐	120 ÷ 12 = ☐	8 ÷ 1 = ☐
12 ÷ 1 = ☐	9 ÷ 3 = ☐	11 ÷ 1 = ☐	54 ÷ 9 = ☐	14 ÷ 2 = ☐
12 ÷ 6 = ☐				

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain scored with a bicycle kick, then showed off a captains band.
2. The villain hit a high header shot, then adjusted padded gloves.
3. The villain scored with a bicycle kick, then pulled up striped socks.
4. The villain hit a high header shot, then pulled up striped socks.
5. The villain zapped a rocket pass, then shined their golden shin guards.
6. The villain zapped a rocket pass, then pulled up striped socks.
7. The villain scored with a bicycle kick, then flashed their neon cleats.
8. The villain zapped a rocket pass, then showed off a captains band.
9. The villain curved the ball into the net, then pulled up striped socks.
10. The villain hit a high header shot, then flashed their neon cleats.
11. The villain curved the ball into the net, then showed off a captains band.
12. The villain made a wild power slide, then flashed their neon cleats.

TEACHER / PARENT

Answer Key

The Case of the Missing Gold Cup

Culprit: Sophia Smith

Header Shot · Striped Socks · Right Footed · Green Headband · Squeaky Whistle

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 17 → Clue 2 9 → Clue 3 7 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Addition): "THE SLY STRIKER DOES NOT WEAR NEON CLEATS"

3 + 2 = 5 (T) · 3 + 4 = 7 (E) · 6 + 7 = 13 (W) · 4 + 8 = 12 (L) · 1 + 1 = 2 (H) · 3 + 5 = 8 (N) · 9 + 8 = 17 (S) · 1 + 2 = 3 (K) · 5 + 10 = 15 (O) · 1 + 3 = 4 (Y) · 12 + 6 = 18 (I) · 8 + 3 = 11 (D) · 14 + 6 = 20 (A) · 2 + 7 = 9 (R) · 4 + 6 = 10 (C)

Clue 2 (Subtraction): "FOOTPRINTS SHOW THE SNEAKER IS RIGHT FOOTED"

12 - 8 = 4 (F) · 5 - 2 = 3 (R) · 14 - 8 = 6 (I) · 14 - 3 = 11 (E) · 19 - 5 = 14 (O) · 19 - 1 = 18 (H) · 14 - 9 = 5 (S) · 10 - 9 = 1 (T) · 9 - 2 = 7 (K) · 20 - 3 = 17 (N) · 20 - 1 = 19 (D) · 7 - 5 = 2 (A) · 13 - 4 = 9 (G) · 17 - 4 = 13 (P) · 19 - 3 = 16 (W)

Clue 3 (Multiplication facts (1-12)): "THE SNEAKER COVERED EARS AT A SQUEAKY WHISTLE"

10 × 10 = 100 (T) · 9 × 10 = 90 (Y) · 4 × 7 = 28 (R) · 10 × 11 = 110 (Q) · 3 × 4 = 12 (A) · 7 × 7 = 49 (E) · 10 × 12 = 120 (L) · 5 × 10 = 50 (I) · 8 × 5 = 40 (C) · 11 × 7 = 77 (D) · 2 × 1 = 2 (O) · 6 × 7 = 42 (W) · 9 × 3 = 27 (H) · 7 × 2 = 14 (N) · 8 × 4 = 32 (S) · 8 × 1 = 8 (U) · 3 × 6 = 18 (K) · 11 × 8 = 88 (V)

Clue 4 (Skip counting): "WE FOUND THREADS FROM A GREEN HEADBAND"

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

Clue 5 (Division facts (1-12)): surviving statement is box 4 → Sophia Smith

5 ÷ 1 = 5 · 27 ÷ 3 = 9 · 11 ÷ 11 = 1 · 120 ÷ 12 = 10 · 8 ÷ 1 = 8 · 12 ÷ 1 = 12 · 9 ÷ 3 = 3 · 11 ÷ 1 = 11 · 54 ÷ 9 = 6 · 14 ÷ 2 = 7 · 12 ÷ 6 = 2