The Case of the Missing Golden Anchor

Grade 5 math · Place value, Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication, Division · Reading level grades 3-4

Detective: _____ **Date:** _____

Someone snuck onto Captain Redbeard's flagship and swiped the sacred Golden Anchor right before the grand parade! Solve the clues and unmask the thief before they set sail.

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 Sea Scoundrel is _____

Possible suspects

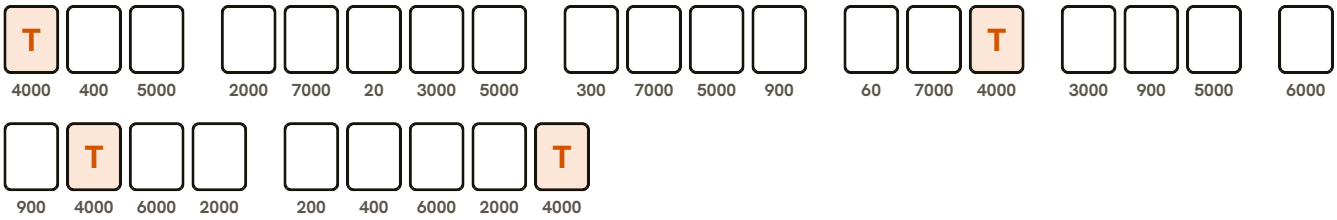
Cross off a row as each clue rules it out. The one left at the end is the culprit.

NAME	PRIMARY WEAPON	NAVIGATIONAL RELIC	DOMINANT HAND	HAIRSTYLE	FEAR FACTOR
Captain Morgan	Boarding Axe	Silver Whistle	RIGHT HANDED	RED BRAIDS	LOUD BELLS
Jolly Jonah	Flintlock Pistol	Pocket Sundial	RIGHT HANDED	SILVER PONYTAIL	LOUD BELLS
Anne Bonny	Boarding Axe	Brass Spyglass	LEFT HANDED	RED BRAIDS	SOUR LEMONS
Blackbeard Edward	Boarding Axe	Pocket Sundial	RIGHT HANDED	SILVER PONYTAIL	SOUR LEMONS
Salty Sam	Boarding Axe	Silver Whistle	LEFT HANDED	RED BRAIDS	LOUD BELLS
Calico Jack	Flintlock Pistol	Silver Whistle	RIGHT HANDED	BLACK BEARD	SOUR LEMONS
Pegleg Pete	Cutlass Saber	Brass Spyglass	RIGHT HANDED	SILVER PONYTAIL	SOUR LEMONS
Cannonball Jack	Flintlock Pistol	Silver Whistle	RIGHT HANDED	SILVER PONYTAIL	LOUD BELLS
Stormy Stella	Throwing Dagger	Brass Spyglass	RIGHT HANDED	BLACK BEARD	SOUR LEMONS
Scurvy Sid	Flintlock Pistol	Enchanted Compass	RIGHT HANDED	BLACK BEARD	SOUR LEMONS
Grace O Malley	Throwing Dagger	Pocket Sundial	LEFT HANDED	SILVER PONYTAIL	LOUD BELLS
William Kidd	Flintlock Pistol	Brass Spyglass	LEFT HANDED	BLACK BEARD	SOUR LEMONS
Cutlass Cora	Boarding Axe	Brass Spyglass	RIGHT HANDED	BLACK BEARD	LOUD BELLS
Samuel Bellamy	Throwing Dagger	Star Chart	LEFT HANDED	BLACK BEARD	LOUD BELLS
Sea Dog Silas	Throwing Dagger	Star Chart	RIGHT HANDED	SILVER PONYTAIL	LOUD BELLS
Wave Skimmer Wendy	Cutlass Saber	Pocket Sundial	RIGHT HANDED	SILVER PONYTAIL	LOUD BELLS
Stede Bonnet	Cutlass Saber	Brass Spyglass	LEFT HANDED	RED BRAIDS	LOUD BELLS
Timber Tom	Hook Hand	Enchanted Compass	RIGHT HANDED	BLACK BEARD	SHINY MIRRORS
Mary Read	Throwing Dagger	Pocket Sundial	LEFT HANDED	RED BRAIDS	LOUD BELLS
Barnacle Bill	Throwing Dagger	Pocket Sundial	RIGHT HANDED	SILVER PONYTAIL	LOUD BELLS
Rusty Roger	Throwing Dagger	Star Chart	LEFT HANDED	SILVER PONYTAIL	SOUR LEMONS

CLUE 1 Place value

> The harbor master found a secret digit code carved into the ship log standard. Read the place values to reveal the first lead.

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



What is the value of the 4 in 94,708? ☐ → **T**

What is the value of the 5 in 145,688? ☐ → **E**

What is the value of the 6 in 47,868? ☐ → **N**

What is the value of the 6 in 16,173? ☐ → **A**

What is the value of the 2 in 80,727? ☐ → **G**

What is the value of the 4 in 93,475? ☐ → **H**

What is the value of the 7 in 67,123? ☐ → **O**

What is the value of the 9 in 641,904? ☐ → **S**

What is the value of the 2 in 62,109? ☐ → **R**

What is the value of the 3 in 194,315? ☐ → **D**

What is the value of the 2 in 45,273? ☐ → **C**

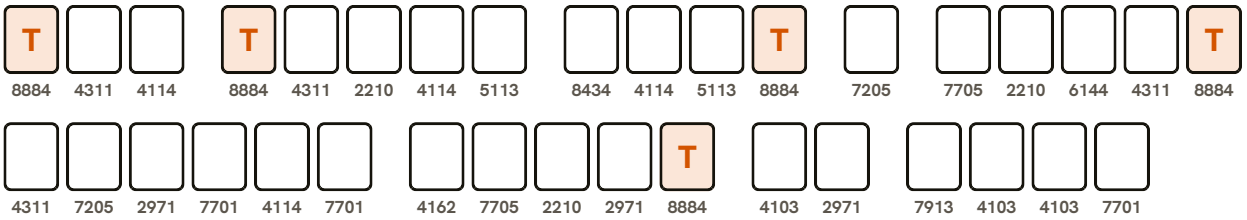
What is the value of the 3 in 823,870? ☐ → **U**

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Addition

> First Mate Morgan tallied the total number of iron doubloons collected from the three lower decks to find the next trail.

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



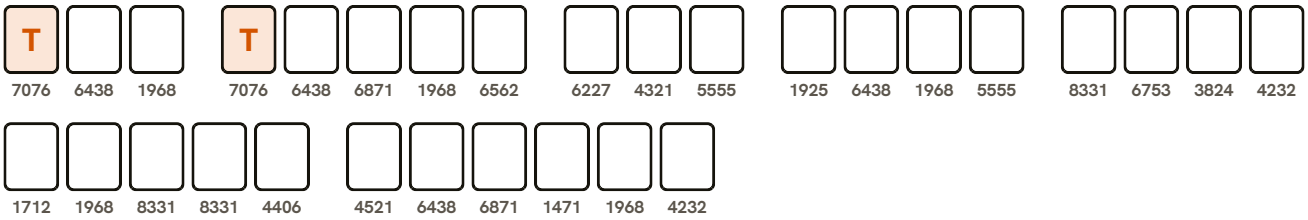
5405 + 3479 = ☐ → T	3551 + 4362 = ☐ → W	2985 + 4720 = ☐ → R
2631 + 1483 = ☐ → E	2624 + 3520 = ☐ → G	2403 + 1908 = ☐ → H
2006 + 2097 = ☐ → O	1705 + 1266 = ☐ → N	3444 + 3761 = ☐ → A
5161 + 3273 = ☐ → L	2723 + 1439 = ☐ → P	2354 + 2759 = ☐ → F
4481 + 3220 = ☐ → D	1184 + 1026 = ☐ → I	

Scratch space:

CLUE 3 Subtraction

> Quartermaster Barnaby calculated how many wooden crates were missing after the thief fled down the gangplank.

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



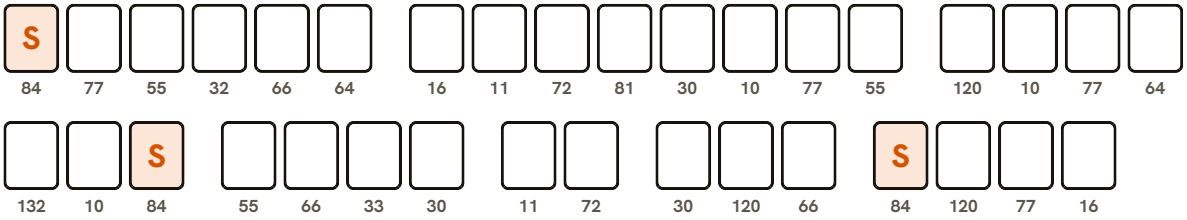
10382 - 3306 = ☐ → T	8265 - 1512 = ☐ → O	3554 - 1586 = ☐ → E
7973 - 2418 = ☐ → N	5919 - 1687 = ☐ → D	10810 - 3939 = ☐ → I
6679 - 2158 = ☐ → C	2832 - 1120 = ☐ → B	9282 - 3055 = ☐ → R
5904 - 1498 = ☐ → S	7737 - 3416 = ☐ → A	9464 - 3026 = ☐ → H
2826 - 1355 = ☐ → M	12482 - 4151 = ☐ → L	10126 - 3564 = ☐ → F
7276 - 3452 = ☐ → U	4504 - 2579 = ☐ → W	

Scratch space:

CLUE 4 Multiplication facts (1-12)

> Captain Redbeard checked the grid rows of gunpowder barrels lined up in the ship armory.

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



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

Scratch space:

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

> The deckhands split their remaining rations of hardtack equally to figure out where the thief was hiding.

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:

35 ÷ 5 = ☐ | 24 ÷ 8 = ☐ | 132 ÷ 12 = ☐ | 54 ÷ 6 = ☐ | 60 ÷ 5 = ☐

6 ÷ 3 = ☐ | 44 ÷ 11 = ☐ | 4 ÷ 4 = ☐ | 96 ÷ 12 = ☐ | 15 ÷ 3 = ☐

80 ÷ 8 = ☐

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain flung a throwing dagger, then spotted ships with a brass spyglass.
2. The villain flung a throwing dagger, then called crew with a silver whistle.
3. The villain swung a cutlass saber, then checked time on a pocket sundial.
4. The villain swung a cutlass saber, then steered using an enchanted compass.
5. The villain slammed a hook hand, then called crew with a silver whistle.
6. The villain fired a flintlock pistol, then called crew with a silver whistle.
7. The villain flung a throwing dagger, then checked time on a pocket sundial.
8. The villain flung a throwing dagger, then read the stars with a star chart.
9. The villain fired a flintlock pistol, then steered using an enchanted compass.
10. The villain slammed a hook hand, then spotted ships with a brass spyglass.
11. The villain fired a flintlock pistol, then checked time on a pocket sundial.
12. The villain slammed a hook hand, then read the stars with a star chart.

TEACHER / PARENT

Answer Key

The Case of the Missing Golden Anchor

Culprit: Cannonball Jack

Flintlock Pistol · Silver Whistle · RIGHT HANDED · SILVER PONYTAIL · LOUD BELLS

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 18 → Clue 2 12 → Clue 3 6 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Place value): "THE ROGUE DOES NOT USE A STAR CHART"

What is the value of the 4 in 94,708? = 4000 (T) · What is the value of the 5 in 145,688? = 5000 (E) · What is the value of the 6 in 47,868? = 60 (N) · What is the value of the 6 in 16,173? = 6000 (A) · What is the value of the 2 in 80,727? = 20 (G) · What is the value of the 4 in 93,475? = 400 (H) · What is the value of the 7 in 67,123? = 7000 (O) · What is the value of the 9 in 641,904? = 900 (S) · What is the value of the 2 in 62,109? = 2000 (R) · What is the value of the 3 in 194,315? = 300 (D) · What is the value of the 2 in 45,273? = 200 (C) · What is the value of the 3 in 823,870? = 3000 (U)

Clue 2 (Addition): "THE THIEF LEFT A RIGHT HANDED PRINT ON WOOD"

5405 + 3479 = 8884 (T) · 3551 + 4362 = 7913 (W) · 2985 + 4720 = 7705 (R) · 2631 + 1483 = 4114 (E) · 2624 + 3520 = 6144 (G) · 2403 + 1908 = 4311 (H) · 2006 + 2097 = 4103 (O) · 1705 + 1266 = 2971 (N) · 3444 + 3761 = 7205 (A) · 5161 + 3273 = 8434 (L) · 2723 + 1439 = 4162 (P) · 2354 + 2759 = 5113 (F) · 4481 + 3220 = 7701 (D) · 1184 + 1026 = 2210 (I)

Clue 3 (Subtraction): "THE THIEF RAN WHEN LOUD BELLS CHIMED"

10382 - 3306 = 7076 (T) · 8265 - 1512 = 6753 (O) · 3554 - 1586 = 1968 (E) · 7973 - 2418 = 5555 (N) · 5919 - 1687 = 4232 (D) · 10810 - 3939 = 6871 (I) · 6679 - 2158 = 4521 (C) · 2832 - 1120 = 1712 (B) · 9282 - 3055 = 6227 (R) · 5904 - 1498 = 4406 (S) · 7737 - 3416 = 4321 (A) · 9464 - 3026 = 6438 (H) · 2826 - 1355 = 1471 (M) · 12482 - 4151 = 8331 (L) · 10126 - 3564 = 6562 (F) · 7276 - 3452 = 3824 (U) · 4504 - 2579 = 1925 (W)

Clue 4 (Multiplication facts (1-12)): "SILVER PONYTAIL HAIR WAS LEFT ON THE SHIP"

7 × 12 = 84 (S) · 5 × 2 = 10 (A) · 9 × 9 = 81 (Y) · 12 × 11 = 132 (W) · 8 × 8 = 64 (R) · 6 × 5 = 30 (T) · 4 × 8 = 32 (V) · 12 × 10 = 120 (H) · 11 × 6 = 66 (E) · 11 × 7 = 77 (I) · 8 × 2 = 16 (P) · 12 × 6 = 72 (N) · 5 × 11 = 55 (L) · 11 × 3 = 33 (F) · 11 × 1 = 11 (O)

Clue 5 (Division facts (1-12)): surviving statement is box 6 → Cannonball Jack

35 ÷ 5 = 7 · 24 ÷ 8 = 3 · 132 ÷ 12 = 11 · 54 ÷ 6 = 9 · 60 ÷ 5 = 12 · 6 ÷ 3 = 2 · 44 ÷ 11 = 4 · 4 ÷ 4 = 1 · 96 ÷ 12 = 8 · 15 ÷ 3 = 5 · 80 ÷ 8 = 10