The Case of the Missing Golden Mouse

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

Detective: _____ **Date:** _____

Someone snuck into Whisker Villa and swapped the famous Golden Mouse Statue with a painted ball of yarn! Detective Pawlock needs your help to examine the evidence and catch the sneaky cat.

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 Cat Burglar is _____

Possible suspects

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

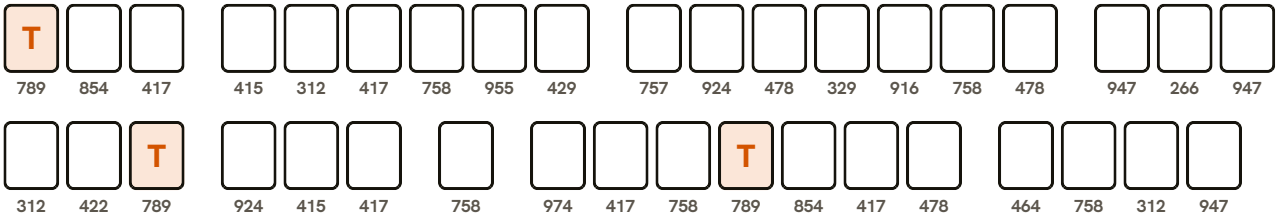
NAME	MAIN TRICK	GADGET	WHISKERS	FUR COLOR	DISTRACTION
Oreo	Night Vision	Yarn Launcher	Twitching Right Whiskers	Midnight Black Fur	Cardboard Box
Simba	Wall Climb	Squeaky Toy	Twitching Right Whiskers	Calico Fur	Warm Sunbeam
Garfield	High Pounce	Laser Pointer	Twitching Left Whiskers	Orange Tabby Fur	Cardboard Box
Smokey	Silent Tread	Yarn Launcher	Twitching Right Whiskers	Midnight Black Fur	Warm Sunbeam
Mittens	Wall Climb	Squeaky Toy	Twitching Left Whiskers	Midnight Black Fur	Cardboard Box
Whiskers	Silent Tread	Catnip Bomb	Twitching Left Whiskers	Midnight Black Fur	Cardboard Box
Loki	Wall Climb	Feather Wand	Twitching Right Whiskers	Midnight Black Fur	Bowl of Milk
Cleo	Night Vision	Laser Pointer	Twitching Right Whiskers	Midnight Black Fur	Cardboard Box
Ziggy	Night Vision	Catnip Bomb	Twitching Left Whiskers	Calico Fur	Cardboard Box
Socks	Super Purr	Laser Pointer	Twitching Left Whiskers	Orange Tabby Fur	Warm Sunbeam
Sylvester	Wall Climb	Squeaky Toy	Twitching Left Whiskers	Calico Fur	Warm Sunbeam
Nala	High Pounce	Feather Wand	Twitching Right Whiskers	Midnight Black Fur	Warm Sunbeam
Mochi	Night Vision	Feather Wand	Twitching Left Whiskers	Orange Tabby Fur	Warm Sunbeam
Peanut	High Pounce	Feather Wand	Twitching Left Whiskers	Orange Tabby Fur	Warm Sunbeam
Jasper	High Pounce	Laser Pointer	Twitching Right Whiskers	Midnight Black Fur	Warm Sunbeam
Milo	High Pounce	Squeaky Toy	Twitching Right Whiskers	Midnight Black Fur	Warm Sunbeam
Oliver	Night Vision	Laser Pointer	Twitching Left Whiskers	Calico Fur	Warm Sunbeam
Tom	Night Vision	Yarn Launcher	Twitching Left Whiskers	Midnight Black Fur	Warm Sunbeam
Daisy	Night Vision	Squeaky Toy	Twitching Right Whiskers	Orange Tabby Fur	Warm Sunbeam
Luna	Wall Climb	Squeaky Toy	Twitching Right Whiskers	Midnight Black Fur	Warm Sunbeam
Shadow	Super Purr	Laser Pointer	Twitching Left Whiskers	Calico Fur	Warm Sunbeam

make your own at mathcrackers.com

CLUE 1 Addition

Pawlock added up all the muddy pawprints left near the display case.

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



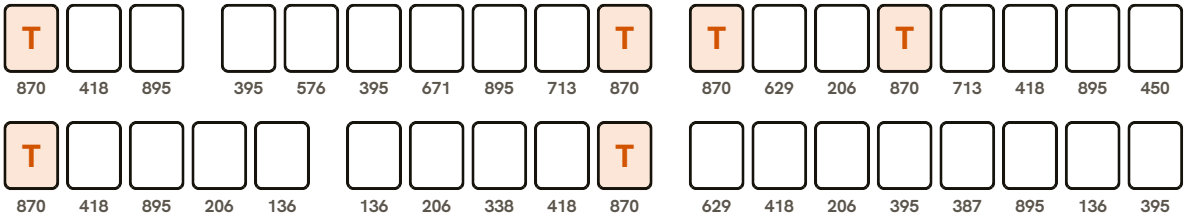
288 + 501 = ☐ → T	516 + 242 = ☐ → A	475 + 449 = ☐ → U
395 + 521 = ☐ → L	198 + 231 = ☐ → Y	199 + 218 = ☐ → E
239 + 176 = ☐ → S	175 + 303 = ☐ → R	181 + 283 = ☐ → W
499 + 448 = ☐ → D	316 + 639 = ☐ → K	281 + 476 = ☐ → B
315 + 659 = ☐ → F	197 + 225 = ☐ → O	127 + 202 = ☐ → G
510 + 344 = ☐ → H	183 + 129 = ☐ → N	121 + 145 = ☐ → I

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Subtraction

Pawlock subtracted the eaten treats from the jar to find a hidden clue.

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



1013 - 143 = ☐ → T

915 - 244 = ☐ → P

1294 - 399 = ☐ → E

483 - 277 = ☐ → I

1022 - 309 = ☐ → C

859 - 283 = ☐ → U

657 - 239 = ☐ → H

454 - 116 = ☐ → G

669 - 274 = ☐ → S

347 - 211 = ☐ → R

663 - 34 = ☐ → W

602 - 215 = ☐ → K

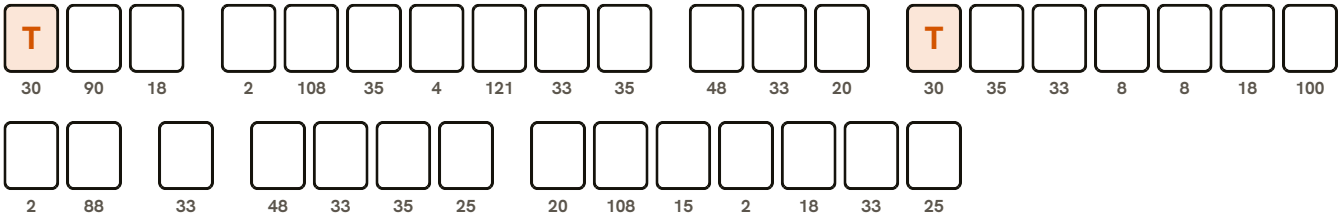
822 - 372 = ☐ → D

Scratch space:

CLUE 3 Multiplication facts (1-12)

> Pawlock counted equal rows of cat food tins stacked in the pantry.

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



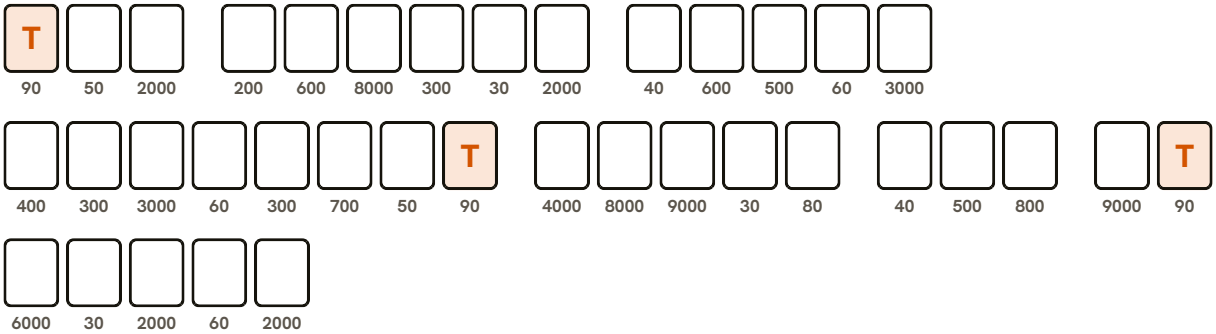
6 × 5 = ☐ → T	3 × 5 = ☐ → N	5 × 5 = ☐ → M	11 × 3 = ☐ → A
12 × 4 = ☐ → W	7 × 5 = ☐ → R	11 × 11 = ☐ → L	
2 × 2 = ☐ → G	9 × 10 = ☐ → H	10 × 10 = ☐ → D	
2 × 4 = ☐ → P	2 × 10 = ☐ → S	9 × 2 = ☐ → E	2 × 1 = ☐ → B
9 × 12 = ☐ → U	8 × 11 = ☐ → Y		

Scratch space:

CLUE 4 Rounding

Pawlock checked a digital scale that rounded the weight of the fake statue.

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



Round 88 to the nearest ten ☐ → T

Round 226 to the nearest hundred ☐ → P

Round 387 to the nearest hundred ☐ → M

Round 716 to the nearest hundred ☐ → G

Round 44 to the nearest ten ☐ → F

Round 594 to the nearest hundred ☐ → O

Round 2,029 to the nearest thousand ☐ → E

Round 521 to the nearest hundred ☐ → U

Round 8,162 to the nearest thousand ☐ → L

Round 3,619 to the nearest thousand ☐ → B

Round 831 to the nearest hundred ☐ → R

Round 33 to the nearest ten ☐ → C

Round 60 to the nearest ten ☐ → N

Round 6,027 to the nearest thousand ☐ → S

Round 260 to the nearest hundred ☐ → I

Round 48 to the nearest ten ☐ → H

Round 3,481 to the nearest thousand ☐ → D

Round 84 to the nearest ten ☐ → K

Round 8,791 to the nearest thousand ☐ → A

Scratch space:

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

> Pawlock split the remaining treats equally among the helpful alley cats.

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:

144 ÷ 12 = ☐ | 27 ÷ 3 = ☐ | 77 ÷ 11 = ☐ | 54 ÷ 9 = ☐ | 40 ÷ 5 = ☐

3 ÷ 1 = ☐ | 12 ÷ 12 = ☐ | 70 ÷ 7 = ☐ | 132 ÷ 12 = ☐ | 8 ÷ 2 = ☐

16 ÷ 8 = ☐

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain navigated in total darkness, then fired a yarn launcher.
2. The villain pounced from high above, then swung a feather wand.
3. The villain pounced from high above, then dropped a catnip bomb.
4. The villain tiptoed across the room, then flashed a laser pointer.
5. The villain tiptoed across the room, then fired a yarn launcher.
6. The villain navigated in total darkness, then dropped a catnip bomb.
7. The villain pounced from high above, then flashed a laser pointer.
8. The villain scaled the tall drapes, then fired a yarn launcher.
9. The villain pounced from high above, then squeaked a toy loudly.
10. The villain navigated in total darkness, then flashed a laser pointer.
11. The villain tiptoed across the room, then squeaked a toy loudly.
12. The villain scaled the tall drapes, then squeaked a toy loudly.

TEACHER / PARENT

Answer Key

The Case of the Missing Golden Mouse

Culprit: Smokey

Silent Tread · Yarn Launcher · Twitching Right Whiskers · Midnight Black Fur · Warm Sunbeam

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 17 → Clue 2 8 → Clue 3 6 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Addition): "THE SNEAKY BURGLAR DID NOT USE A FEATHER WAND"

288 + 501 = 789 (T) · 516 + 242 = 758 (A) · 475 + 449 = 924 (U) · 395 + 521 = 916 (L) · 198 + 231 = 429 (Y) · 199 + 218 = 417 (E) · 239 + 176 = 415 (S) · 175 + 303 = 478 (R) · 181 + 283 = 464 (W) · 499 + 448 = 947 (D) · 316 + 639 = 955 (K) · 281 + 476 = 757 (B) · 315 + 659 = 974 (F) · 197 + 225 = 422 (O) · 127 + 202 = 329 (G) · 510 + 344 = 854 (H) · 183 + 129 = 312 (N) · 121 + 145 = 266 (I)

Clue 2 (Subtraction): "THE SUSPECT TWITCHED THEIR RIGHT WHISKERS"

1013 - 143 = 870 (T) · 915 - 244 = 671 (P) · 1294 - 399 = 895 (E) · 483 - 277 = 206 (I) · 1022 - 309 = 713 (C) · 859 - 283 = 576 (U) · 657 - 239 = 418 (H) · 454 - 116 = 338 (G) · 669 - 274 = 395 (S) · 347 - 211 = 136 (R) · 663 - 34 = 629 (W) · 602 - 215 = 387 (K) · 822 - 372 = 450 (D)

Clue 3 (Multiplication facts (1-12)): "THE BURGLAR WAS TRAPPED BY A WARM SUNBEAM"

6 × 5 = 30 (T) · 3 × 5 = 15 (N) · 5 × 5 = 25 (M) · 11 × 3 = 33 (A) · 12 × 4 = 48 (W) · 7 × 5 = 35 (R) · 11 × 11 = 121 (L) · 2 × 2 = 4 (G) · 9 × 10 = 90 (H) · 10 × 10 = 100 (D) · 2 × 4 = 8 (P) · 2 × 10 = 20 (S) · 9 × 2 = 18 (E) · 2 × 1 = 2 (B) · 9 × 12 = 108 (U) · 8 × 11 = 88 (Y)

Clue 4 (Rounding): "THE POLICE FOUND MIDNIGHT BLACK FUR AT SCENE"

Round 88 to the nearest ten = 90 (T) · Round 226 to the nearest hundred = 200 (P) · Round 387 to the nearest hundred = 400 (M) · Round 716 to the nearest hundred = 700 (G) · Round 44 to the nearest ten = 40 (F) · Round 594 to the nearest hundred = 600 (O) · Round 2,029 to the nearest thousand = 2000 (E) · Round 521 to the nearest hundred = 500 (U) · Round 8,162 to the nearest thousand = 8000 (L) · Round 3,619 to the nearest thousand = 4000 (B) · Round 831 to the nearest hundred = 800 (R) · Round 33 to the nearest ten = 30 (C) · Round 60 to the nearest ten = 60 (N) · Round 6,027 to the nearest thousand = 6000 (S) · Round 260 to the nearest hundred = 300 (I) · Round 48 to the nearest ten = 50 (H) · Round 3,481 to the nearest thousand = 3000 (D) · Round 84 to the nearest ten = 80 (K) · Round 8,791 to the nearest thousand = 9000 (A)

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

144 ÷ 12 = 12 · 27 ÷ 3 = 9 · 77 ÷ 11 = 7 · 54 ÷ 9 = 6 · 40 ÷ 5 = 8 · 3 ÷ 1 = 3 · 12 ÷ 12 = 1 · 70 ÷ 7 = 10 · 132 ÷ 12 = 11 · 8 ÷ 2 = 4 · 16 ÷ 8 = 2