The Case of the Missing Neptune Crown

Grade 5 math · Rounding, Skip counting, Word problems, Multi-step word problems, Missing addends · Reading level grades 5-6

Detective: _____ **Date:** _____

The shimmering Neptune Crown has vanished from the royal treasury of Coral Cove! Five suspects were spotted near the vault reef. Analyze the clues left in the sea currents to unmask the culprit before they escape into the deep trench.

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 Thief is _____

Possible suspects

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

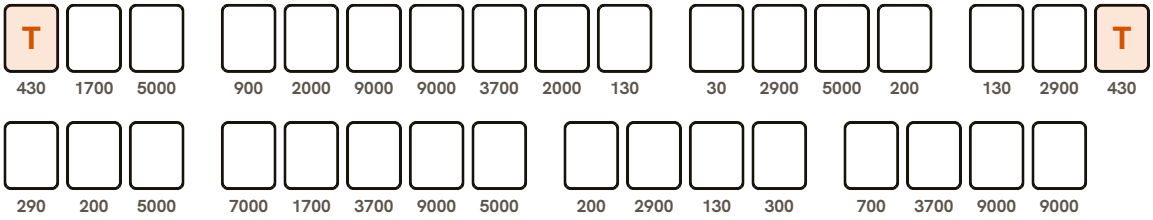
NAME	PRIMARY MAGIC	SECONDARY SKILL	DOMINANT FLIPPER	TAIL FIN STYLE	BANISHING RELIC
Marina	Bubble Shield	Shark Whisper	Right Flipper	Ocean Blue Fin	Sea Salt Crystal
Riptide	Bioluminescence	Shark Whisper	Right Flipper	Coral Pink Fin	Golden Trident
Nautilus	Bioluminescence	Dolphin Telepathy	Right Flipper	Kelp Green Fin	Sea Salt Crystal
Finley	Wave Blast	Crab Summoning	Right Flipper	Coral Pink Fin	Golden Trident
Nerida	Tide Control	Dolphin Telepathy	Right Flipper	Coral Pink Fin	Golden Trident
Zephyr	Wave Blast	Dolphin Telepathy	Left Flipper	Ocean Blue Fin	Sea Salt Crystal
Coralia	Tide Control	Dolphin Telepathy	Right Flipper	Kelp Green Fin	Golden Trident
Shelly	Tide Control	Whale Song Call	Right Flipper	Coral Pink Fin	Golden Trident
Cascade	Wave Blast	Eel Camouflage	Right Flipper	Coral Pink Fin	Golden Trident
Posey	Bioluminescence	Shark Whisper	Left Flipper	Ocean Blue Fin	Golden Trident
Glaucus	Current Whirl	Crab Summoning	Right Flipper	Kelp Green Fin	Sea Salt Crystal
Siren	Wave Blast	Dolphin Telepathy	Right Flipper	Kelp Green Fin	Golden Trident
Serena	Wave Blast	Dolphin Telepathy	Left Flipper	Kelp Green Fin	Polished Pearl
Pearl	Tide Control	Dolphin Telepathy	Right Flipper	Ocean Blue Fin	Golden Trident
Kai	Bubble Shield	Dolphin Telepathy	Right Flipper	Coral Pink Fin	Polished Pearl
Delphine	Current Whirl	Dolphin Telepathy	Left Flipper	Kelp Green Fin	Golden Trident
Triton	Current Whirl	Shark Whisper	Right Flipper	Ocean Blue Fin	Golden Trident
Abyss	Bioluminescence	Crab Summoning	Left Flipper	Coral Pink Fin	Golden Trident
Urchin	Bubble Shield	Eel Camouflage	Right Flipper	Coral Pink Fin	Polished Pearl
Thalassa	Bubble Shield	Whale Song Call	Right Flipper	Ocean Blue Fin	Polished Pearl
Calypso	Bioluminescence	Shark Whisper	Right Flipper	Coral Pink Fin	Polished Pearl

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CLUE 1 Rounding

The vault guard sonar system only displays rounded depth numbers to simplify navigation logs.

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



Round 432 to the nearest ten ☐ → T

Round 656 to the nearest hundred ☐ → C

Round 288 to the nearest ten ☐ → U

Round 232 to the nearest hundred ☐ → S

Round 306 to the nearest hundred ☐ → G

Round 1,669 to the nearest thousand ☐ → I

Round 9,259 to the nearest thousand ☐ → L

Round 3,672 to the nearest hundred ☐ → A

Round 2,946 to the nearest hundred ☐ → O

Round 6,509 to the nearest thousand ☐ → W

Round 1,675 to the nearest hundred ☐ → H

Round 31 to the nearest ten ☐ → D

Round 4,522 to the nearest thousand ☐ → E

Round 134 to the nearest ten ☐ → N

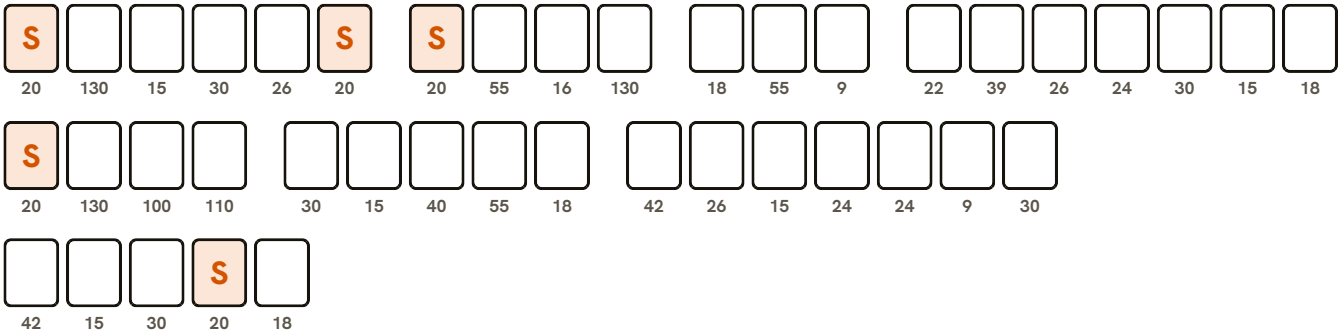
Round 861 to the nearest hundred ☐ → V

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Skip counting

A trail of glow-algae pulses at steady rhythmic intervals down the trench path.

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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, ___, 18, 20 ☐ → **O**

Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, ___, 20, 25 ☐ → **I**

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

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

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

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

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

Scratch space:

CLUE 3 Word problems

> The chief mermaid archivist cataloged the missing clam shells stored in the vault.

Solve each problem, then write its letter in the boxes to fill in the missing word.

Someone scared the villain off with

G							R	I					
83	18	75	106	11	96	99			106	11	96	99	

.

Reef Guard found 9 kelp scrolls yesterday and 74 more today. How many kelp scrolls in all?

Answer: ☐ → **G**

There were 15 polished conch shells. 4 were used up. How many polished conch shells are left?

Answer: ☐ → **E**

Reef Guard lined up 8 rows of 12 glowing pearls. How many glowing pearls in all?

Answer: ☐ → **N**

Reef Guard found 10 kelp scrolls yesterday and 8 more today. How many kelp scrolls in all?

Answer: ☐ → **O**

Reef Guard found 23 polished conch shells yesterday and 52 more today. How many polished conch shells in all?

Answer: ☐ → **L**

There were 127 starfish badges. 28 were used up. How many starfish badges are left?

Answer: ☐ → **T**

There were 121 sea glass tokens. 15 were used up. How many sea glass tokens are left?

Answer: ☐ → **D**

Scratch space:

CLUE 4 Multi-step word problems

Reef patrol units spent two shifts calculating total sea glass tokens left near the crime scene.

Solve each problem, then write its letter in the boxes to fill in the missing word.

A strand of

C							N	K	F		N
79	60	63	36	86	75	16				16	

hair turned up at the scene.

Reef Guard earned 2 starfish badges in each of 3 rounds, plus 78 bonus starfish badges. Then 5 starfish badges were lost. How many starfish badges are left?

Answer: ☐ → C

There were 503 polished conch shells in all. 23 polished conch shells were set aside. The rest were shared equally among 8 Coral Patrol. How many polished conch shells did each get?

Answer: ☐ → O

Reef Guard filled 2 boxes with 9 starfish badges each, then found 18 more starfish badges. How many starfish badges are there in all?

Answer: ☐ → A

There were 445 glowing pearls in all. 15 glowing pearls were set aside. The rest were shared equally among 5 Coral Patrol. How many glowing pearls did each get?

Answer: ☐ → L

Reef Guard collected 275 starfish badges in the morning and 103 starfish badges in the afternoon, then split them equally among 6 Coral Patrol. How many starfish badges did each get?

Answer: ☐ → R

There were 90 glowing pearls in all. 2 Coral Patrol used 5 glowing pearls each. The other 5 Coral Patrol shared the rest equally. How many glowing pearls did each of the other Coral Patrol get?

Answer: ☐ → I

Reef Guard filled 2 boxes with 6 kelp scrolls each, then found 63 more kelp scrolls. How many kelp scrolls are there in all?

Answer: ☐ → P

Scratch space:

CLUE 5 Missing addends - the last clue

The mermaid guard ledger shows missing inventory spaces that must be calculated to balance the record.

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:

31 + ___ = 43 ☐	2 + ___ = 3 ☐	34 + ___ = 40 ☐	10 + ___ = 19 ☐
24 + ___ = 32 ☐	26 + ___ = 30 ☐	3 + ___ = 8 ☐	5 + ___ = 8 ☐
39 + ___ = 50 ☐	4 + ___ = 11 ☐	40 + ___ = 50 ☐	

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain fired a massive wave blast, then blended in like an eel.
2. The villain fired a massive wave blast, then commanded guard crabs.
3. The villain raised a bubble shield, then signaled nearby dolphins.
4. The villain summoned a high tide, then blended in like an eel.
5. The villain spun a whirlpool, then commanded guard crabs.
6. The villain flashed blinding lights, then calmed patrolling sharks.
7. The villain flashed blinding lights, then commanded guard crabs.
8. The villain summoned a high tide, then commanded guard crabs.
9. The villain fired a massive wave blast, then called the deep whales.
10. The villain raised a bubble shield, then blended in like an eel.
11. The villain fired a massive wave blast, then calmed patrolling sharks.
12. The villain summoned a high tide, then signaled nearby dolphins.

TEACHER / PARENT

Answer Key

The Case of the Missing Neptune Crown

Culprit: Finley

Wave Blast · Crab Summoning · Right Flipper · Coral Pink Fin · Golden Trident

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 19 → Clue 2 14 → Clue 3 8 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Rounding): "THE VILLAIN DOES NOT USE WHALE SONG CALL"

Round 432 to the nearest ten = 430 (T) · Round 656 to the nearest hundred = 700 (C) · Round 288 to the nearest ten = 290 (U) · Round 232 to the nearest hundred = 200 (S) · Round 306 to the nearest hundred = 300 (G) · Round 1,669 to the nearest thousand = 2000 (I) · Round 9,259 to the nearest thousand = 9000 (L) · Round 3,672 to the nearest hundred = 3700 (A) · Round 2,946 to the nearest hundred = 2900 (O) · Round 6,509 to the nearest thousand = 7000 (W) · Round 1,675 to the nearest hundred = 1700 (H) · Round 31 to the nearest ten = 30 (D) · Round 4,522 to the nearest thousand = 5000 (E) · Round 134 to the nearest ten = 130 (N) · Round 861 to the nearest hundred = 900 (V)

Clue 2 (Skip counting): "SWIRLS SHOW THE CULPRIT SWAM RIGHT FLIPPER FIRST"

Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, ___, 22, 24 = 20 (S) · Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, ___, 12, 15 = 9 (E) · Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, ___, 50, 60 = 40 (G) · Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, 120, ___, 140, 150 = 130 (W) · Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, ___, 60, 65 = 55 (H) · Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, ___, 21, 24 = 18 (T) · Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, 33, 36, 39, ___, 45, 48 = 42 (F) · Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, ___, 24, 26 = 22 (C) · 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, ___, 18, 20 = 16 (O) · Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, ___, 20, 25 = 15 (I) · Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, 33, 36, ___, 42, 45 = 39 (U) · Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, ___, 35, 40 = 30 (R) · Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, ___, 110, 120 = 100 (A) · Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, ___, 27, 30 = 24 (P) · Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, ___, 28, 30 = 26 (L)

Clue 3 (Word problems): "GOLDEN TRIDENT"

Reef Guard found 9 kelp scrolls yesterday and 74 more today. How many kelp scrolls in all? = 83 (G) · There were 15 polished conch shells. 4 were used up. How many polished conch shells are left? = 11 (E) · Reef Guard lined up 8 rows of 12 glowing pearls. How many glowing pearls in all? = 96 (N) · Reef Guard found 10 kelp scrolls yesterday and 8 more today. How many kelp scrolls in all? = 18 (O) · Reef Guard found 23 polished conch shells yesterday and 52 more today. How many polished conch shells in all? = 75 (L) · There were 127 starfish badges. 28 were used up. How many starfish badges are left? = 99 (T) · There were 121 sea glass tokens. 15 were used up. How many sea glass tokens are left? = 106 (D)

Clue 4 (Multi-step word problems): "CORAL PINK FIN"

Reef Guard earned 2 starfish badges in each of 3 rounds, plus 78 bonus starfish badges. Then 5 starfish badges were lost. How many starfish badges are left? = 79 (C) · There were 503 polished conch shells in all. 23 polished conch shells were set aside. The rest were shared equally among 8 Coral Patrol. How many polished conch shells did each get? = 60 (O) · Reef Guard filled 2 boxes with 9 starfish badges each, then found 18 more starfish badges. How many starfish badges are there in all? = 36 (A) · There were 445 glowing pearls in all. 15 glowing pearls were set aside. The rest were shared equally among 5 Coral Patrol. How many glowing pearls did each get? = 86 (L) · Reef Guard collected 275 starfish badges in the morning and 103 starfish badges in the afternoon, then split them equally among 6 Coral Patrol. How many starfish badges did each get? = 63 (R) · There were 90 glowing pearls in all. 2 Coral Patrol used 5 glowing pearls each. The other 5 Coral Patrol shared the rest equally. How many glowing pearls did each of the other Coral Patrol get? = 16 (I) · Reef Guard filled 2 boxes with 6 kelp scrolls each, then found 63 more kelp scrolls. How many kelp scrolls are there in all? = 75 (P)

Clue 5 (Missing addends): surviving statement is box 2 → Finley

31 + ___ = 43 = 12 · 2 + ___ = 3 = 1 · 34 + ___ = 40 = 6 · 10 + ___ = 19 = 9 · 24 + ___ = 32 = 8 · 26 + ___ = 30 = 4 · 3 + ___ = 8 = 5 · 5 + ___ = 8 = 3 · 39 + ___ = 50 = 11 · 4 + ___ = 11 = 7 · 40 + ___ = 50 = 10