The Case of the Spooky Sugar Bandit

Grade 4 math · Place value, Multiplication, Word problems, Rounding, Division · Reading level grades 3-4

Detective: _____ **Date:** _____

Someone swiped the Golden Pumpkin Candy Bowl right before the midnight parade at Pumpkin Hollow! Solve the math clues to catch the culprit before the contest is ruined.

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 Sugar Thief is _____

Possible suspects

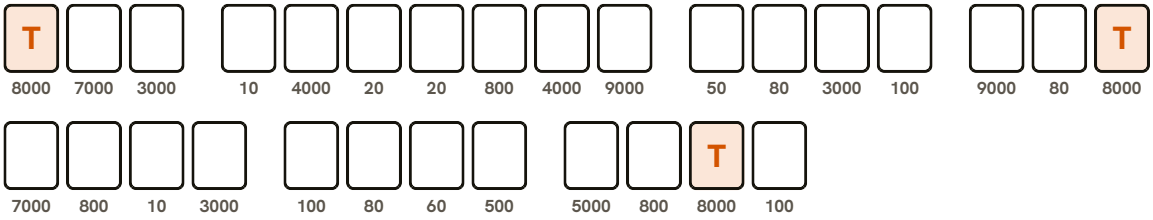
Cross off a row as each clue rules it out. The one left at the end is the culprit.

NAME	SPOOKY MAGIC	TREAT STASH	GLOVE HAND	COSTUME WIG	TRICKED BY
Vera Vampire	Pumpkin Blast	Caramel Apples	Right Hand Glove	Neon Green Wig	Silver Bell
Gwyn Ghost	Glow Curse	Gummy Worms	Right Hand Glove	Purple Spider Wig	Bright Flash
Hattie Haunted	Ghost Float	Sour Bats	Left Hand Glove	Bright Orange Wig	Garlic Crisp
Gulliver Ghoul	Glow Curse	Choco Bats	Right Hand Glove	Neon Green Wig	Bright Flash
Lurker Lou	Shadow Step	Sour Bats	Left Hand Glove	Bright Orange Wig	Bright Flash
Opal Owl	Glow Curse	Choco Bats	Right Hand Glove	Bright Orange Wig	Silver Bell
Morty Mummy	Bat Swarm	Sour Bats	Left Hand Glove	Bright Orange Wig	Garlic Crisp
Boris Bat	Bat Swarm	Gummy Worms	Left Hand Glove	Neon Green Wig	Silver Bell
Wanda Witch	Ghost Float	Caramel Apples	Right Hand Glove	Neon Green Wig	Silver Bell
Ignis Imp	Bat Swarm	Gummy Worms	Right Hand Glove	Neon Green Wig	Silver Bell
Fiona Fog	Pumpkin Blast	Gummy Worms	Left Hand Glove	Bright Orange Wig	Silver Bell
Rowan Raven	Shadow Step	Choco Bats	Left Hand Glove	Bright Orange Wig	Garlic Crisp
Jack Lantern	Bat Swarm	Sour Bats	Right Hand Glove	Purple Spider Wig	Silver Bell
Niles Nether	Bat Swarm	Caramel Apples	Right Hand Glove	Purple Spider Wig	Bright Flash
Piper Pumpkin	Pumpkin Blast	Candy Corn	Left Hand Glove	Bright Orange Wig	Garlic Crisp
Bramble Bone	Ghost Float	Candy Corn	Right Hand Glove	Purple Spider Wig	Silver Bell
Drake Dracula	Shadow Step	Choco Bats	Right Hand Glove	Neon Green Wig	Silver Bell
Luna Night	Shadow Step	Caramel Apples	Right Hand Glove	Neon Green Wig	Bright Flash
Kira Kettle	Glow Curse	Gummy Worms	Right Hand Glove	Purple Spider Wig	Silver Bell
Jesper Jackal	Ghost Float	Sour Bats	Right Hand Glove	Neon Green Wig	Silver Bell
Frankie Stein	Shadow Step	Candy Corn	Right Hand Glove	Bright Orange Wig	Bright Flash

CLUE 1 Place value

Inspect the haunted keypad! Count the digit place values on the code pad to decode the first clue.

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



What is the value of the 8 in 58,937? ☐ → T

What is the value of the 8 in 874? ☐ → A

What is the value of the 4 in 94,266? ☐ → I

What is the value of the 9 in 9,261? ☐ → N

What is the value of the 1 in 417? ☐ → V

What is the value of the 1 in 175? ☐ → S

What is the value of the 7 in 7,631? ☐ → H

What is the value of the 5 in 5,704? ☐ → B

What is the value of the 8 in 783? ☐ → O

What is the value of the 2 in 1,420? ☐ → L

What is the value of the 5 in 4,597? ☐ → R

What is the value of the 5 in 9,651? ☐ → D

What is the value of the 6 in 969? ☐ → U

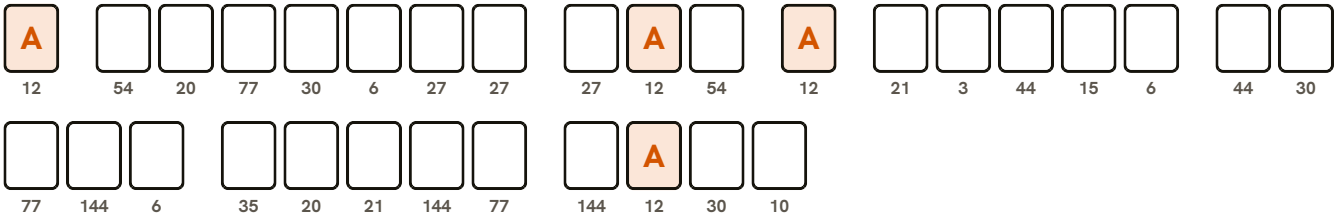
What is the value of the 3 in 3,168? ☐ → E

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Multiplication facts (1-12)

Count the rows of pumpkin lanterns lined up by the stage to unlock the next secret.

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



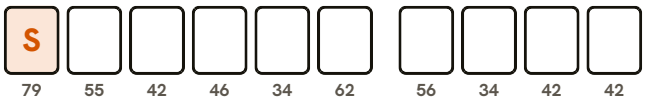
6 × 2 = ☐ → A	5 × 2 = ☐ → D	1 × 3 = ☐ → L	4 × 5 = ☐ → I
11 × 4 = ☐ → O	5 × 3 = ☐ → V	7 × 11 = ☐ → T	
6 × 1 = ☐ → E	9 × 3 = ☐ → S	5 × 7 = ☐ → R	9 × 6 = ☐ → W
5 × 6 = ☐ → N	3 × 7 = ☐ → G	12 × 12 = ☐ → H	

Scratch space:

CLUE 3 Word problems

Help the treat booth manager tally up the party supplies to reveal a hidden note.

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

Someone scared the villain off with 

.

There were 92 candy bags. 13 were used up. How many candy bags are left?

Answer: ☐ → **S**

Spookfest Helper found 9 glow sticks yesterday and 25 more today. How many glow sticks in all?

Answer: ☐ → **E**

Spookfest Helper found 44 candy bags yesterday and 12 more today. How many candy bags in all?

Answer: ☐ → **B**

Spookfest Helper lined up 5 rows of 11 mini pumpkins. How many mini pumpkins in all?

Answer: ☐ → **I**

Spookfest Helper found 30 candy bags yesterday and 16 more today. How many candy bags in all?

Answer: ☐ → **V**

Spookfest Helper lined up 6 rows of 7 spooky stickers. How many spooky stickers in all?

Answer: ☐ → **L**

Spookfest Helper found 8 spooky stickers yesterday and 54 more today. How many spooky stickers in all?

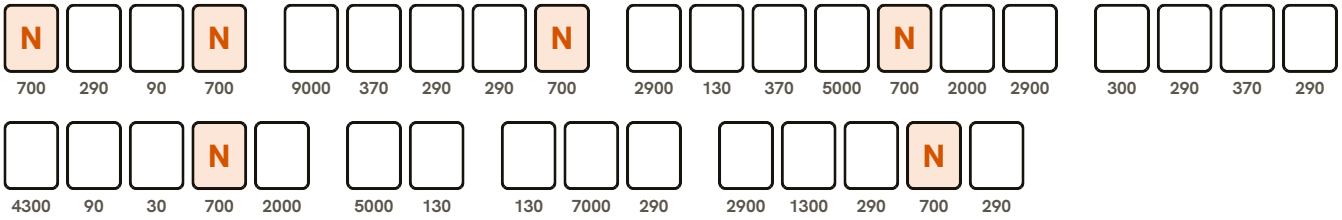
Answer: ☐ → **R**

Scratch space:

CLUE 4 Rounding

The digital ghost radar rounds all energy readings to the nearest hundred.

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



Round 674 to the nearest hundred ☐ → **N**

Round 131 to the nearest ten ☐ → **T**

Round 294 to the nearest ten ☐ → **E**

Round 34 to the nearest ten ☐ → **U**

Round 368 to the nearest ten ☐ → **R**

Round 9,089 to the nearest thousand ☐ → **G**

Round 1,552 to the nearest thousand ☐ → **D**

Round 5,089 to the nearest thousand ☐ → **A**

Round 7,452 to the nearest thousand ☐ → **H**

Round 93 to the nearest ten ☐ → **O**

Round 276 to the nearest hundred ☐ → **W**

Round 2,942 to the nearest hundred ☐ → **S**

Round 4,336 to the nearest hundred ☐ → **F**

Round 1,321 to the nearest hundred ☐ → **C**

Scratch space:

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

Split the leftover candy bags equally among the spook patrol to discover 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:

9 ÷ 9 = ☐	36 ÷ 12 = ☐	60 ÷ 5 = ☐	24 ÷ 4 = ☐	18 ÷ 9 = ☐
56 ÷ 8 = ☐	16 ÷ 2 = ☐	12 ÷ 3 = ☐	11 ÷ 1 = ☐	70 ÷ 7 = ☐
45 ÷ 9 = ☐				

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain stepped into the shadows, then left choco bats on the table.
2. The villain floated like a ghost, then scattered sour bats on the path.
3. The villain blasted a pumpkin explosion, then smudged sticky caramel apples.
4. The villain summoned a swarm of bats, then scattered sour bats on the path.
5. The villain summoned a swarm of bats, then left choco bats on the table.
6. The villain blasted a pumpkin explosion, then dropped gummy worms everywhere.
7. The villain cast a glowing curse, then left choco bats on the table.
8. The villain cast a glowing curse, then dropped gummy worms everywhere.
9. The villain floated like a ghost, then smudged sticky caramel apples.
10. The villain cast a glowing curse, then smudged sticky caramel apples.
11. The villain cast a glowing curse, then spilled candy corn on the grass.
12. The villain summoned a swarm of bats, then dropped gummy worms everywhere.

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TEACHER / PARENT

Answer Key

The Case of the Spooky Sugar Bandit

Culprit: Wanda Witch

Ghost Float · Caramel Apples · Right Hand Glove · Neon Green Wig · Silver Bell

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 16 → Clue 2 12 → Clue 3 7 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Place value): "THE VILLAIN DOES NOT HAVE SOUR BATS"

What is the value of the 8 in 58,937? = 8000 (T) · What is the value of the 8 in 874? = 800 (A) · What is the value of the 4 in 94,266? = 4000 (I) · What is the value of the 9 in 9,261? = 9000 (N) · What is the value of the 1 in 417? = 10 (V) · What is the value of the 1 in 175? = 100 (S) · What is the value of the 7 in 7,631? = 7000 (H) · What is the value of the 5 in 5,704? = 5000 (B) · What is the value of the 8 in 783? = 80 (O) · What is the value of the 2 in 1,420? = 20 (L) · What is the value of the 5 in 4,597? = 500 (R) · What is the value of the 5 in 9,651? = 50 (D) · What is the value of the 6 in 969? = 60 (U) · What is the value of the 3 in 3,168? = 3000 (E)

Clue 2 (Multiplication facts (1-12)): "A WITNESS SAW A GLOVE ON THE RIGHT HAND"

6 × 2 = 12 (A) · 5 × 2 = 10 (D) · 1 × 3 = 3 (L) · 4 × 5 = 20 (I) · 11 × 4 = 44 (O) · 5 × 3 = 15 (V) · 7 × 11 = 77 (T) · 6 × 1 = 6 (E) · 9 × 3 = 27 (S) · 5 × 7 = 35 (R) · 9 × 6 = 54 (W) · 5 × 6 = 30 (N) · 3 × 7 = 21 (G) · 12 × 12 = 144 (H)

Clue 3 (Word problems): "SILVER BELL"

There were 92 candy bags. 13 were used up. How many candy bags are left? = 79 (S) · Spookfest Helper found 9 glow sticks yesterday and 25 more today. How many glow sticks in all? = 34 (E) · Spookfest Helper found 44 candy bags yesterday and 12 more today. How many candy bags in all? = 56 (B) · Spookfest Helper lined up 5 rows of 11 mini pumpkins. How many mini pumpkins in all? = 55 (I) · Spookfest Helper found 30 candy bags yesterday and 16 more today. How many candy bags in all? = 46 (V) · Spookfest Helper lined up 6 rows of 7 spooky stickers. How many spooky stickers in all? = 42 (L) · Spookfest Helper found 8 spooky stickers yesterday and 54 more today. How many spooky stickers in all? = 62 (R)

Clue 4 (Rounding): "NEON GREEN STRANDS WERE FOUND AT THE SCENE"

Round 674 to the nearest hundred = 700 (N) · Round 131 to the nearest ten = 130 (T) · Round 294 to the nearest ten = 290 (E) · Round 34 to the nearest ten = 30 (U) · Round 368 to the nearest ten = 370 (R) · Round 9,089 to the nearest thousand = 9000 (G) · Round 1,552 to the nearest thousand = 2000 (D) · Round 5,089 to the nearest thousand = 5000 (A) · Round 7,452 to the nearest thousand = 7000 (H) · Round 93 to the nearest ten = 90 (O) · Round 276 to the nearest hundred = 300 (W) · Round 2,942 to the nearest hundred = 2900 (S) · Round 4,336 to the nearest hundred = 4300 (F) · Round 1,321 to the nearest hundred = 1300 (C)

Clue 5 (Division facts (1-12)): surviving statement is box 9 → Wanda Witch

9 ÷ 9 = 1 · 36 ÷ 12 = 3 · 60 ÷ 5 = 12 · 24 ÷ 4 = 6 · 18 ÷ 9 = 2 · 56 ÷ 8 = 7 · 16 ÷ 2 = 8 · 12 ÷ 3 = 4 · 11 ÷ 1 = 11 · 70 ÷ 7 = 10 · 45 ÷ 9 = 5