



The Case of the Sunken Anchor

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

Detective: _____ Date: _____

Someone snuck onto Captain Barnaby's ship and stole the magical Golden Anchor! The thief sailed away toward the misty islands. Help the young deckhands solve the clues and find the pirate thief before they hide the anchor forever!

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 pirate thief is _____

Possible suspects

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

NAME	NAVIGATION GEAR	PIRATE COSTUME	SWORD HAND	HAIRSTYLE	FEAR
Anne Bonny	wooden cutlass	striped bandanna	right handed	brown curls	ticking pocketwatch
Calico Jack	golden compass	leather eye patch	left handed	black braids	sour lime juice
Sir Francis	golden compass	feathered tricorn	right handed	black braids	ticking pocketwatch
Captain Redbeard	golden compass	leather eye patch	right handed	black braids	sour lime juice
Shiver Jim	map scroll	silver belt buckle	right handed	brown curls	ticking pocketwatch
Grace OMalley	golden compass	green parrot	left handed	brown curls	ticking pocketwatch
Henry Morgan	brass spyglass	feathered tricorn	left handed	red ponytail	sneezing dust
Marina Wave	map scroll	leather eye patch	right handed	brown curls	sour lime juice
Patchy Paul	golden compass	striped bandanna	right handed	red ponytail	ticking pocketwatch
Blackbeard	wooden cutlass	green parrot	right handed	brown curls	ticking pocketwatch
Anchor Andy	wooden cutlass	silver belt buckle	left handed	brown curls	sour lime juice
Barnacle Bill	rope ladder	green parrot	right handed	brown curls	ticking pocketwatch
Breezy Bella	wooden cutlass	leather eye patch	left handed	red ponytail	sour lime juice
Scurvy Sam	rope ladder	leather eye patch	left handed	black braids	sneezing dust
Pegleg Pete	rope ladder	striped bandanna	right handed	black braids	sour lime juice
Captain Kidd	map scroll	striped bandanna	right handed	brown curls	ticking pocketwatch
Skurvy Skip	rope ladder	feathered tricorn	left handed	black braids	sneezing dust
Mary Read	wooden cutlass	silver belt buckle	right handed	red ponytail	sneezing dust
Cannonball Charlie	rope ladder	feathered tricorn	right handed	brown curls	sour lime juice
Sunny Sally	brass spyglass	striped bandanna	left handed	black braids	sneezing dust
Jolly Roger	brass spyglass	striped bandanna	left handed	brown curls	ticking pocketwatch

CLUE 1 Addition

To find the first clue, we need to count and add all the wooden barrels left on the dock.

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

T								T									T
561	296	519	572	972	202	222	561	519	660	693	519	276	781	693	561		

																	T
464	519	222	202	222	276	972	504	599	519	202	950	519	504	561			

950	773	396	840	504	519

$366 + 195 = \square \rightarrow$ T	$320 + 199 = \square \rightarrow$ E	$278 + 382 = \square \rightarrow$ D
$415 + 358 = \square \rightarrow$ U	$363 + 587 = \square \rightarrow$ B	$227 + 277 = \square \rightarrow$ L
$300 + 393 = \square \rightarrow$ O	$322 + 142 = \square \rightarrow$ W	$452 + 388 = \square \rightarrow$ K
$229 + 343 = \square \rightarrow$ P	$125 + 271 = \square \rightarrow$ C	$220 + 379 = \square \rightarrow$ V
$654 + 318 = \square \rightarrow$ I	$98 + 178 = \square \rightarrow$ S	$124 + 78 = \square \rightarrow$ R
$371 + 410 = \square \rightarrow$ N	$83 + 139 = \square \rightarrow$ A	$98 + 198 = \square \rightarrow$ H

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Subtraction

The thief dropped some items as they ran, so we must subtract the lost gear from our total inventory.

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

$409 - 253 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{T}}$

$1017 - 312 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{N}}$

$730 - 258 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{M}}$

$1202 - 309 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\mathbf{D}}$

$250 - 35 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{R}}$

$$862 - 328 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{P}}$$

$347 - 166 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{G}}$

$$301 - 161 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{L}}$$

$581 - 44 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{I}}$

$257 - 151 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{A}}$

$$962 - 360 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{E}}$$

$$912 - 69 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\mathbf{V}}$$

$$512 - 201 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{H}}$$

Scratch space:

CLUE 3
Rounding

Our old ship telescope is blurry, so we can only estimate and round the distance to the nearest ten yards.

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

A																			
90	80	700	5000	50	700	600	60	9000	400	5000	50	7000	80	4000	90	80	5000	800	
	A								A						A		A		
200	90	8000	7000	80	800	7000	900	5000	90	200	9000	20	300	600	90	4000	90	500	

Round 93 to the nearest ten → **A**

Round 5,142 to the nearest thousand → **C**

Round 183 to the nearest hundred → **M**

Round 8,924 to the nearest thousand → **P**

Round 864 to the nearest hundred → **S**

Round 272 to the nearest hundred → **U**

Round 381 to the nearest hundred → **O**

Round 58 to the nearest ten → **G**

Round 7,591 to the nearest thousand → **D**

Round 6,902 to the nearest thousand → **E**

Round 49 to the nearest ten → **K**

Round 461 to the nearest hundred → **Y**

Round 725 to the nearest hundred → **I**

Round 842 to the nearest hundred → **H**

Round 3,534 to the nearest thousand → **W**

Round 20 to the nearest ten → **R**

Round 81 to the nearest ten → **T**

Round 645 to the nearest hundred → **N**

Scratch space:

CLUE 4 Multiplication facts (1-12)

The island crates are stacked in equal rows, so we can multiply the rows to count the food supplies.

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

Diagram illustrating the sequence of operations for the first row of the matrix:

- Row 1: 64 , 28 , 28 , 21 , 55 , 3 , 56 , 28 , 14 , 72 , 5 , 80 , 56 , 64 , 21 , 14 , 55 , 56 , 55 .

Diagram illustrating the sequence of operations for the second row of the matrix:

- Row 2: 64 , 55 , 99 , 8 , 28 , 72 , 8 , 60 , 55 , 5 , 60 , 35 , 6 , 56 .

$8 \times 8 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{L}}$

$11 \times 5 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{E}}$

$1 \times 8 = \square \rightarrow \mathbf{T}$

$7 \times 8 = \square \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$

$7 \times 5 = \square \rightarrow \mathbf{A}$

$$10 \times 8 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\mathbf{U}}$$

$9 \times 11 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{F}}$

$$10 \times 6 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{H}}$$

$$7 \times 3 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\mathbf{S}}$$

$$4 \times 7 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{0}$$

$$8 \times 9 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\mathbf{N}}$$

$5 \times 1 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{C}}$

$1 \times 6 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{1}$

$3 \times 1 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\mathbf{B}}$

$7 \times 2 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\mathbf{W}}$

Scratch space:

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

The deckhands need to divide the remaining water bottles equally among the search party to find 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:

$12 \div 1 = \boxed{}$

$55 \div 5 = \boxed{}$

$96 \div 12 = \boxed{}$

$20 \div 10 = \boxed{}$

$30 \div 10 = \boxed{}$

$18 \div 2 = \boxed{}$

$60 \div 6 = \boxed{}$

$3 \div 3 = \boxed{}$

$84 \div 12 = \boxed{}$

$72 \div 12 = \boxed{}$

$44 \div 11 = \boxed{}$

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain peered through the brass spyglass, then fed the green parrot.
2. The villain unrolled the map scroll, then tipped a feathered tricorn.
3. The villain checked the golden compass, then tipped a feathered tricorn.
4. The villain climbed the rope ladder, then flipped a leather eye patch.
5. The villain waved a wooden cutlass, then adjusted a striped bandanna.
6. The villain waved a wooden cutlass, then tipped a feathered tricorn.
7. The villain peered through the brass spyglass, then polished a silver belt buckle.
8. The villain climbed the rope ladder, then fed the green parrot.
9. The villain climbed the rope ladder, then adjusted a striped bandanna.
10. The villain unrolled the map scroll, then flipped a leather eye patch.
11. The villain unrolled the map scroll, then adjusted a striped bandanna.
12. The villain waved a wooden cutlass, then fed the green parrot.

Answer Key

The Case of the Sunken Anchor

Culprit: Anne Bonny

wooden cutlass · striped bandanna · right handed · brown curls · ticking pocketwatch

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 18 → Clue 2 10 → Clue 3 6 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Addition): "THE PIRATE DOES NOT WEAR A SILVER BELT BUCKLE"

$366 + 195 = 561$ (T) · $320 + 199 = 519$ (E) · $278 + 382 = 660$ (D) · $415 + 358 = 773$ (U) · $363 + 587 = 950$ (B) · $227 + 277 = 504$ (L) · $300 + 393 = 693$ (O) · $322 + 142 = 464$ (W) · $452 + 388 = 840$ (K) · $229 + 343 = 572$ (P) · $125 + 271 = 396$ (C) · $220 + 379 = 599$ (V) · $654 + 318 = 972$ (I) · $98 + 178 = 276$ (S) · $124 + 78 = 202$ (R) · $371 + 410 = 781$ (N) · $83 + 139 = 222$ (A) · $98 + 198 = 296$ (H)

Clue 2 (Subtraction): "THE VILLAIN HELD THE MAP IN THE RIGHT HAND"

$409 - 253 = 156$ (T) · $1017 - 312 = 705$ (N) · $730 - 258 = 472$ (M) · $1202 - 309 = 893$ (D) · $250 - 35 = 215$ (R) · $862 - 328 = 534$ (P) · $347 - 166 = 181$ (G) · $301 - 161 = 140$ (L) · $581 - 44 = 537$ (I) · $257 - 151 = 106$ (A) · $962 - 360 = 602$ (E) · $912 - 69 = 843$ (V) · $512 - 201 = 311$ (H)

Clue 3 (Rounding): "A TICKING POCKETWATCH MADE THE SCAMP RUN AWAY"

Round 93 to the nearest ten = 90 (A) · Round 5,142 to the nearest thousand = 5000 (C) · Round 183 to the nearest hundred = 200 (M) · Round 8,924 to the nearest thousand = 9000 (P) · Round 864 to the nearest hundred = 900 (S) · Round 272 to the nearest hundred = 300 (U) · Round 381 to the nearest hundred = 400 (O) · Round 58 to the nearest ten = 60 (G) · Round 7,591 to the nearest thousand = 8000 (D) · Round 6,902 to the nearest thousand = 7000 (E) · Round 49 to the nearest ten = 50 (K) · Round 461 to the nearest hundred = 500 (Y) · Round 725 to the nearest hundred = 700 (I) · Round 842 to the nearest hundred = 800 (H) · Round 3,534 to the nearest thousand = 4000 (W) · Round 20 to the nearest ten = 20 (R) · Round 81 to the nearest ten = 80 (T) · Round 645 to the nearest hundred = 600 (N)

Clue 4 (Multiplication facts (1-12)): "LOOSE BROWN CURLS WERE LEFT ON THE CHAIR"

$8 \times 8 = 64$ (L) · $11 \times 5 = 55$ (E) · $1 \times 8 = 8$ (T) · $7 \times 8 = 56$ (R) · $7 \times 5 = 35$ (A) · $10 \times 8 = 80$ (U) · $9 \times 11 = 99$ (F) · $10 \times 6 = 60$ (H) · $7 \times 3 = 21$ (S) · $4 \times 7 = 28$ (O) · $8 \times 9 = 72$ (N) · $5 \times 1 = 5$ (C) · $1 \times 6 = 6$ (I) · $3 \times 1 = 3$ (B) · $7 \times 2 = 14$ (W)

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

$12 \div 1 = 12$ · $55 \div 5 = 11$ · $96 \div 12 = 8$ · $20 \div 10 = 2$ · $30 \div 10 = 3$ · $18 \div 2 = 9$ · $60 \div 6 = 10$ · $3 \div 3 = 1$ · $84 \div 12 = 7$ · $72 \div 12 = 6$ · $44 \div 11 = 4$