



The Cosmic Hoop Heist

Grade 2 math · Addition, Subtraction, Word problems, Multi-step word problems, Missing addends · Reading level grades 3-4

Detective: _____ Date: _____

A sneaky rogue dino-bot has stolen the Golden Championship Basketball right before the big Space Cup Finals! Coach Barnaby needs your help to decode the clues, scan the team roster, and find the thief.

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 rogue dino-bot player is _____

Possible suspects

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

NAME	SIGNATURE MOVE	ARMOR UPGRADE	SHOOTING HAND	ANTENNA GLOW	TEAM WEAKNESS
Barkley Byte	Laser Pass	Booster Boots	Right Handed	Green Glow	Static Sparks
Spud Sputnik	Meteor Dunk	Radar Eye	Left Handed	Red Glow	Loud Whistles
LeBron Rex	Meteor Dunk	Turbo Gears	Right Handed	Blue Glow	Static Sparks
Luka Laser	Gravity Float	Metal Claws	Right Handed	Green Glow	Loud Whistles
Slam-Bot 3000	Rocket Jump	Turbo Gears	Right Handed	Green Glow	Loud Whistles
Stego-Spark	Meteor Dunk	Turbo Gears	Left Handed	Green Glow	Magnets
Rusty Rivet	Tail Block	Turbo Gears	Left Handed	Green Glow	Magnets
Alley-Oop Ankylo	Tail Block	Radar Eye	Right Handed	Red Glow	Magnets
Cyber-Jordan	Tail Block	Radar Eye	Left Handed	Blue Glow	Loud Whistles
Pippen Pterodactyl	Laser Pass	Solar Shield	Left Handed	Green Glow	Magnets
Volt Bird	Meteor Dunk	Solar Shield	Right Handed	Blue Glow	Static Sparks
Tricera-Tech	Laser Pass	Radar Eye	Left Handed	Green Glow	Loud Whistles
Shaq-o-Saurus	Laser Pass	Booster Boots	Left Handed	Blue Glow	Magnets
Gizmo Giganoto	Gravity Float	Metal Claws	Left Handed	Blue Glow	Static Sparks
Mega-Maverick	Gravity Float	Solar Shield	Left Handed	Green Glow	Magnets
Dunk-o-Matic	Meteor Dunk	Metal Claws	Right Handed	Green Glow	Magnets
Titanium T-Rex	Laser Pass	Radar Eye	Right Handed	Red Glow	Loud Whistles
Spike Sprocket	Meteor Dunk	Metal Claws	Left Handed	Green Glow	Static Sparks
Vector Veloci	Laser Pass	Radar Eye	Left Handed	Green Glow	Static Sparks
Robo Raptor	Gravity Float	Radar Eye	Left Handed	Green Glow	Magnets
Zion Circuit	Rocket Jump	Radar Eye	Left Handed	Green Glow	Magnets

CLUE 1

Addition

Coach Barnaby needs to count the practice basketballs in both bins. Let's add them up to find the first clue!

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

T			T											T				
41	84	83	41	84	28	83	25	27	44	83	21	94	44	41	26	21	83	72
21	44	96	72	43	21	84	28	83	96	27								

$19 + 22 = \square \rightarrow \text{T}$

$38 + 34 = \square \rightarrow \text{A}$

$19 + 24 = \square \rightarrow \text{R}$

$15 + 13 = \square \rightarrow \text{I}$

$15 + 12 = \square \rightarrow \text{D}$

$37 + 57 = \square \rightarrow \text{N}$

$55 + 41 = \square \rightarrow \text{L}$

$52 + 32 = \square \rightarrow \text{H}$

$14 + 11 = \square \rightarrow \text{F}$

$11 + 10 = \square \rightarrow \text{S}$

$40 + 43 = \square \rightarrow \text{E}$

$13 + 31 = \square \rightarrow \text{O}$

$18 + 8 = \square \rightarrow \text{U}$

Scratch space:

CLUE 2
Subtraction

Some of our glowing jerseys have gone missing from the locker room. Subtract the lost shirts to reveal the next clue!

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

T			T															T	
33	52	42	33	52	41	42	19	17	27	41	87	87	69	42	49	72	41	33	52

T						T				
33	52	42	69	42	19	33	52	31	53	17

$73 - 40 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{T}}$

$41 - 24 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{D}}$

$82 - 10 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{W}}$

$50 - 31 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{F}}$

$101 - 32 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{L}}$

$81 - 32 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{S}}$

$40 - 13 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{R}}$

$97 - 10 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{B}}$

$89 - 36 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{N}}$

$61 - 30 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{A}}$

$86 - 34 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{H}}$

$48 - 6 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{E}}$

$45 - 4 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{I}}$

Scratch space:

CLUE 3

Word problems

The court robots are packing energy drinks for the big game. Solve this quick word puzzle to dig up another lead!

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

Someone scared the villain off with

M						
34	33	21	31	13	14	7

.

There were 40 robo-whistles. 6 were used up. How many robo-whistles are left?

Answer: →

M

There were 43 cyber-football. 10 were used up. How many cyber-football are left?

Answer: →

A

There were 17 space energy drinks. 10 were used up. How many space energy drinks are left?

Answer: →

S

There were 15 space energy drinks. 2 were used up. How many space energy drinks are left?

Answer: →

E

There were 24 space energy drinks. 3 were used up. How many space energy drinks are left?

Answer: →

G

There were 34 space energy drinks. 3 were used up. How many space energy drinks are left?

Answer: →

N

Coach Barnaby lined up 7 rows of 2 space energy drinks. How many space energy drinks in all?

Answer: →

T

Scratch space:

CLUE 4**Multi-step word problems**

Our space team bought boxes of bouncy balls, but some popped during transit. Work through the steps to see who we can rule out!

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

A strand of

G				
24	26	37	37	9

G			
24	17	12	14

 hair turned up at the scene.

Coach Barnaby collected 38 cyber-footballs in the morning and 58 cyber-footballs in the afternoon, then split them equally among 4 The Comet Climbers. How many cyber-footballs did each get?

Answer: →

G

Coach Barnaby collected 20 cyber-footballs in the morning and 136 cyber-footballs in the afternoon, then split them equally among 6 The Comet Climbers. How many cyber-footballs did each get?

Answer: →

R

Coach Barnaby earned 2 glow-in-the-dark sneakers in each of 2 rounds, plus 24 bonus glow-in-the-dark sneakers. Then 11 glow-in-the-dark sneakers were lost. How many glow-in-the-dark sneakers are left?

Answer: →

L

Coach Barnaby collected 33 robo-whistles in the morning and 51 robo-whistles in the afternoon, then split them equally among 6 The Comet Climbers. How many robo-whistles did each get?

Answer: →

W

Coach Barnaby filled 4 boxes with 2 rocket jerseys each, then found 4 more rocket jerseys. How many rocket jerseys are there in all?

Answer: →

O

Coach Barnaby collected 165 glow-in-the-dark sneakers in the morning and 57 glow-in-the-dark sneakers in the afternoon, then split them equally among 6 The Comet Climbers. How many glow-in-the-dark sneakers did each get?

Answer: →

E

Coach Barnaby collected 46 robo-whistles in the morning and 8 robo-whistles in the afternoon, then split them equally among 6 The Comet Climbers. How many robo-whistles did each get?

Answer: →

N

Scratch space:

CLUE 5**Missing addends - the last clue**

We know the total score we need to win, but we are still missing some points from the first half. Find the missing number to solve the mystery!

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:

$10 + \underline{\quad} = 21$

$9 + \underline{\quad} = 10$

$2 + \underline{\quad} = 8$

$6 + \underline{\quad} = 8$

$5 + \underline{\quad} = 10$

$9 + \underline{\quad} = 21$

$1 + \underline{\quad} = 4$

$6 + \underline{\quad} = 13$

$4 + \underline{\quad} = 8$

$8 + \underline{\quad} = 17$

$8 + \underline{\quad} = 16$

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain dashes across the court, then scans the exits with a glowing radar eye.
2. The villain hovers above the hoop, then blocks the pursuit with a solar shield.
3. The villain leaps into the sky, then slices the net with sharp metal claws.
4. The villain dashes across the court, then blocks the pursuit with a solar shield.
5. The villain swings a giant metal tail, then blocks the pursuit with a solar shield.
6. The villain leaps into the sky, then speeds off using noisy turbo gears.
7. The villain hovers above the hoop, then speeds off using noisy turbo gears.
8. The villain hovers above the hoop, then slices the net with sharp metal claws.
9. The villain dashes across the court, then speeds off using noisy turbo gears.
10. The villain hovers above the hoop, then scans the exits with a glowing radar eye.
11. The villain swings a giant metal tail, then speeds off using noisy turbo gears.
12. The villain swings a giant metal tail, then scans the exits with a glowing radar eye.

Answer Key

The Cosmic Hoop Heist

Culprit: Robo Raptor

Gravity Float · Radar Eye · Left Handed · Green Glow · Magnets

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 18 → Clue 2 11 → Clue 3 5 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Addition): "THE THIEF DOES NOT USE A SOLAR SHIELD"

$19 + 22 = 41$ (T) · $38 + 34 = 72$ (A) · $19 + 24 = 43$ (R) · $15 + 13 = 28$ (I) · $15 + 12 = 27$ (D) · $37 + 57 = 94$ (N) · $55 + 41 = 96$ (L) · $52 + 32 = 84$ (H) · $14 + 11 = 25$ (F) · $11 + 10 = 21$ (S) · $40 + 43 = 83$ (E) · $13 + 31 = 44$ (O) · $18 + 8 = 26$ (U)

Clue 2 (Subtraction): "THE THIEF DRIBBLES WITH THE LEFT HAND"

$73 - 40 = 33$ (T) · $41 - 24 = 17$ (D) · $82 - 10 = 72$ (W) · $50 - 31 = 19$ (F) · $101 - 32 = 69$ (L) · $81 - 32 = 49$ (S) · $40 - 13 = 27$ (R) · $97 - 10 = 87$ (B) · $89 - 36 = 53$ (N) · $61 - 30 = 31$ (A) · $86 - 34 = 52$ (H) · $48 - 6 = 42$ (E) · $45 - 4 = 41$ (I)

Clue 3 (Word problems): "MAGNETS"

There were 40 robo-whistles. 6 were used up. How many robo-whistles are left? = 34 (M) · There were 43 cyber-football. 10 were used up. How many cyber-football are left? = 33 (A) · There were 17 space energy drinks. 10 were used up. How many space energy drinks are left? = 7 (S) · There were 15 space energy drinks. 2 were used up. How many space energy drinks are left? = 13 (E) · There were 24 space energy drinks. 3 were used up. How many space energy drinks are left? = 21 (G) · There were 34 space energy drinks. 3 were used up. How many space energy drinks are left? = 31 (N) · Coach Barnaby lined up 7 rows of 2 space energy drinks. How many space energy drinks in all? = 14 (T)

Clue 4 (Multi-step word problems): "GREEN GLOW"

Coach Barnaby collected 38 cyber-football in the morning and 58 cyber-football in the afternoon, then split them equally among 4 The Comet Climbers. How many cyber-football did each get? = 24 (G) · Coach Barnaby collected 20 cyber-football in the morning and 136 cyber-football in the afternoon, then split them equally among 6 The Comet Climbers. How many cyber-football did each get? = 26 (R) · Coach Barnaby earned 2 glow-in-the-dark sneakers in each of 2 rounds, plus 24 bonus glow-in-the-dark sneakers. Then 11 glow-in-the-dark sneakers were lost. How many glow-in-the-dark sneakers are left? = 17 (L) · Coach Barnaby collected 33 robo-whistles in the morning and 51 robo-whistles in the afternoon, then split them equally among 6 The Comet Climbers. How many robo-whistles did each get? = 14 (W) · Coach Barnaby filled 4 boxes with 2 rocket jerseys each, then found 4 more rocket jerseys. How many rocket jerseys are there in all? = 12 (O) · Coach Barnaby collected 165 glow-in-the-dark sneakers in the morning and 57 glow-in-the-dark sneakers in the afternoon, then split them equally among 6 The Comet Climbers. How many glow-in-the-dark sneakers did each get? = 37 (E) · Coach Barnaby collected 46 robo-whistles in the morning and 8 robo-whistles in the afternoon, then split them equally among 6 The Comet Climbers. How many robo-whistles did each get? = 9 (N)

Clue 5 (Missing addends): surviving statement is box 10 → Robo Raptor

$10 + \underline{\quad} = 21 = 11$ · $9 + \underline{\quad} = 10 = 1$ · $2 + \underline{\quad} = 8 = 6$ · $6 + \underline{\quad} = 8 = 2$ · $5 + \underline{\quad} = 10 = 5$ · $9 + \underline{\quad} = 21 = 12$ · $1 + \underline{\quad} = 4 = 3$ · $6 + \underline{\quad} = 13 = 7$ · $4 + \underline{\quad} = 8 = 4$ · $8 + \underline{\quad} = 17 = 9$ · $8 + \underline{\quad} = 16 = 8$