The Cretaceous Outpost Sabotage

Grade 3 math · Multiplication, Rounding, Addition, Subtraction, Division · Reading level grades 7-9

Detective: _____ **Date:** _____

A priceless, perfectly preserved prehistoric specimen was stolen overnight from the secure vault at Titan Valley Outpost. The perpetrator bypassed security using trained prehistoric wildlife and specialized tactical gear, leaving behind scattered evidence across the excavating trenches.

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 Fossil Heist Mastermind is _____

Possible suspects

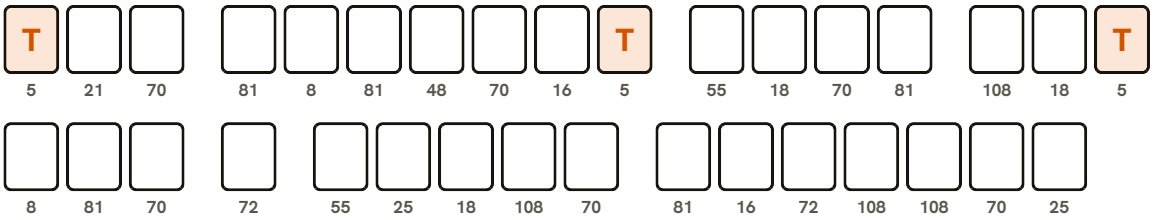
Cross off a row as each clue rules it out. The one left at the end is the culprit.

NAME	DINO COMPANION	FIELD GEAR	DOMINANT HAND	CREST COLOR	SCENT FOIL
Ray Arnold	Triceratops	Tranquilizer Rifle	Right Handed	Obsidian Crest	Citrus Mist
Billy Brennan	Ankylosaurus	Thermal Goggles	Right Handed	Crimson Crest	Pine Resin
Franklin Webb	Triceratops	Thermal Goggles	Left Handed	Crimson Crest	Pine Resin
Roland Tembo	Stegosaurus	Thermal Goggles	Right Handed	Amber Crest	Eucalyptus Spray
Dr Henry Wu	Pterodactyl	Tranquilizer Rifle	Left Handed	Obsidian Crest	Pine Resin
Sarah Harding	Pterodactyl	Sonic Whistle	Right Handed	Crimson Crest	Eucalyptus Spray
Nick Van Owen	Pterodactyl	Grappling Launcher	Left Handed	Crimson Crest	Eucalyptus Spray
Dr Charlotte Lockwood	Stegosaurus	Grappling Launcher	Right Handed	Obsidian Crest	Pine Resin
Dennis Nedry	Ankylosaurus	Sonic Whistle	Left Handed	Crimson Crest	Eucalyptus Spray
Darius Bowman	Stegosaurus	Sonic Whistle	Left Handed	Crimson Crest	Eucalyptus Spray
Vivian Krill	Ankylosaurus	Drone Scanner	Left Handed	Obsidian Crest	Citrus Mist
Dr Ian Malcolm	Pterodactyl	Sonic Whistle	Left Handed	Amber Crest	Eucalyptus Spray
Dr Alan Grant	Velociraptor	Drone Scanner	Left Handed	Crimson Crest	Eucalyptus Spray
Simon Masrani	Stegosaurus	Drone Scanner	Left Handed	Crimson Crest	Pine Resin
Ramsay Cole	Ankylosaurus	Tranquilizer Rifle	Right Handed	Crimson Crest	Eucalyptus Spray
Kayla Watts	Stegosaurus	Grappling Launcher	Left Handed	Obsidian Crest	Eucalyptus Spray
Dr Ellie Sattler	Triceratops	Grappling Launcher	Left Handed	Crimson Crest	Eucalyptus Spray
Peter Ludlow	Triceratops	Tranquilizer Rifle	Right Handed	Crimson Crest	Eucalyptus Spray
Maisie Lockwood	Triceratops	Thermal Goggles	Right Handed	Obsidian Crest	Pine Resin
Lowery Cruthers	Pterodactyl	Thermal Goggles	Left Handed	Crimson Crest	Citrus Mist
Zia Rodriguez	Pterodactyl	Tranquilizer Rifle	Right Handed	Obsidian Crest	Citrus Mist

CLUE 1 Multiplication facts (1-12)

> To decode the first encrypted clue, you calculate the total fossil samples by organizing equal storage trays into groups.

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



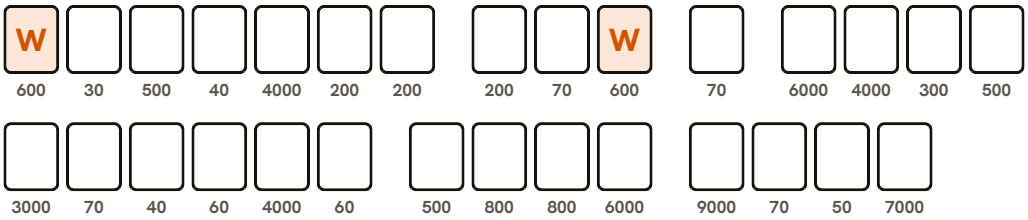
5 × 1 = ☐ → T	5 × 11 = ☐ → D	6 × 3 = ☐ → O	8 × 6 = ☐ → P
2 × 8 = ☐ → C	6 × 12 = ☐ → A	8 × 1 = ☐ → U	5 × 5 = ☐ → R
12 × 9 = ☐ → N	9 × 9 = ☐ → S	10 × 7 = ☐ → E	
7 × 3 = ☐ → H			

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Rounding

> The digital expedition radar only displays proximity distance rounded to the nearest hundred meters, masking exact coordinates.

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



Round 648 to the nearest hundred ☐ → W

Round 33 to the nearest ten ☐ → I

Round 5,997 to the nearest thousand ☐ → L

Round 47 to the nearest ten ☐ → R

Round 309 to the nearest hundred ☐ → F

Round 7,290 to the nearest thousand ☐ → K

Round 2,911 to the nearest thousand ☐ → H

Round 8,541 to the nearest thousand ☐ → M

Round 3,767 to the nearest thousand ☐ → E

Round 73 to the nearest ten ☐ → A

Round 804 to the nearest hundred ☐ → O

Round 57 to the nearest ten ☐ → D

Round 40 to the nearest ten ☐ → N

Round 458 to the nearest hundred ☐ → T

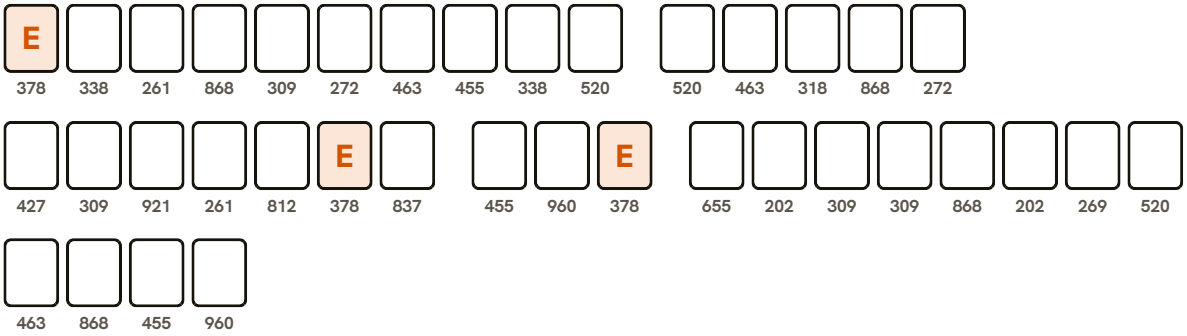
Round 202 to the nearest hundred ☐ → S

Scratch space:

CLUE 3 Addition

Gathering field logs requires combining the inventory numbers from two separate dig trenches.

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



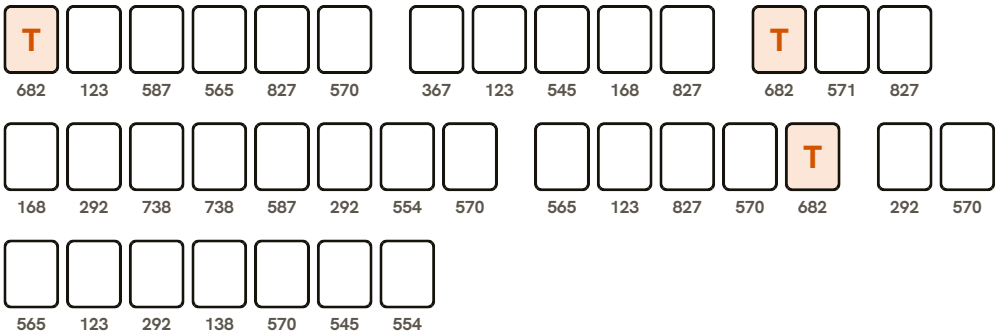
151 + 227 = ☐ → E	111 + 150 = ☐ → C	184 + 271 = ☐ → T
115 + 203 = ☐ → R	174 + 253 = ☐ → B	194 + 115 = ☐ → L
252 + 211 = ☐ → P	483 + 329 = ☐ → K	94 + 108 = ☐ → I
223 + 115 = ☐ → U	456 + 381 = ☐ → D	130 + 139 = ☐ → N
185 + 87 = ☐ → Y	432 + 436 = ☐ → A	607 + 314 = ☐ → O
618 + 342 = ☐ → H	232 + 288 = ☐ → S	368 + 287 = ☐ → V

Scratch space:

CLUE 4 Subtraction

You determine how many tranquilizer darts were spent by subtracting the remaining inventory from the expedition crate.

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



1005 - 323 = ☐ → T

312 - 174 = ☐ → M

993 - 166 = ☐ → E

932 - 361 = ☐ → H

798 - 228 = ☐ → S

713 - 126 = ☐ → A

421 - 54 = ☐ → P

786 - 221 = ☐ → C

1115 - 377 = ☐ → L

731 - 186 = ☐ → O

412 - 120 = ☐ → I

185 - 62 = ☐ → R

704 - 150 = ☐ → N

231 - 63 = ☐ → V

Scratch space:

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

> Distributing the field rations equally among the research teams reveals the final encoded grid coordinate.

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:

6 ÷ 6 = ☐	120 ÷ 12 = ☐	18 ÷ 9 = ☐	64 ÷ 8 = ☐	110 ÷ 10 = ☐
20 ÷ 5 = ☐	108 ÷ 12 = ☐	54 ÷ 9 = ☐	21 ÷ 3 = ☐	20 ÷ 4 = ☐
36 ÷ 3 = ☐				

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain summoned a flying pterodactyl, then fired a heavy grappling launcher.
2. The villain guided an armored stegosaurus, then blew a high frequency sonic whistle.
3. The villain deployed a heavy ankylosaurus, then blew a high frequency sonic whistle.
4. The villain guided an armored stegosaurus, then fired a heavy grappling launcher.
5. The villain summoned a flying pterodactyl, then switched on custom thermal goggles.
6. The villain signaled a swift velociraptor, then blew a high frequency sonic whistle.
7. The villain signaled a swift velociraptor, then switched on custom thermal goggles.
8. The villain directed a charging triceratops, then launched an overhead drone scanner.
9. The villain summoned a flying pterodactyl, then launched an overhead drone scanner.
10. The villain directed a charging triceratops, then fired a heavy grappling launcher.
11. The villain guided an armored stegosaurus, then switched on custom thermal goggles.
12. The villain directed a charging triceratops, then aimed a quiet tranquilizer rifle.

TEACHER / PARENT

Answer Key

The Cretaceous Outpost Sabotage

Culprit: Dennis Nedry

Ankylosaurus · Sonic Whistle · Left Handed · Crimson Crest · Eucalyptus Spray

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 18 → Clue 2 9 → Clue 3 6 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Multiplication facts (1-12)): "THE SUSPECT DOES NOT USE A DRONE SCANNER"

5 × 1 = 5 (T) · 5 × 11 = 55 (D) · 6 × 3 = 18 (O) · 8 × 6 = 48 (P) · 2 × 8 = 16 (C) · 6 × 12 = 72 (A) · 8 × 1 = 8 (U) · 5 × 5 = 25 (R) · 12 × 9 = 108 (N) · 9 × 9 = 81 (S) · 10 × 7 = 70 (E) · 7 × 3 = 21 (H)

Clue 2 (Rounding): "WITNESS SAW A LEFT HANDED TOOL MARK"

Round 648 to the nearest hundred = 600 (W) · Round 33 to the nearest ten = 30 (I) · Round 5,997 to the nearest thousand = 6000 (L) · Round 47 to the nearest ten = 50 (R) · Round 309 to the nearest hundred = 300 (F) · Round 7,290 to the nearest thousand = 7000 (K) · Round 2,911 to the nearest thousand = 3000 (H) · Round 8,541 to the nearest thousand = 9000 (M) · Round 3,767 to the nearest thousand = 4000 (E) · Round 73 to the nearest ten = 70 (A) · Round 804 to the nearest hundred = 800 (O) · Round 57 to the nearest ten = 60 (D) · Round 40 to the nearest ten = 40 (N) · Round 458 to the nearest hundred = 500 (T) · Round 202 to the nearest hundred = 200 (S)

Clue 3 (Addition): "EUCALYPTUS SPRAY BLOCKED THE VILLAINS PATH"

151 + 227 = 378 (E) · 111 + 150 = 261 (C) · 184 + 271 = 455 (T) · 115 + 203 = 318 (R) · 174 + 253 = 427 (B) · 194 + 115 = 309 (L) · 252 + 211 = 463 (P) · 483 + 329 = 812 (K) · 94 + 108 = 202 (I) · 223 + 115 = 338 (U) · 456 + 381 = 837 (D) · 130 + 139 = 269 (N) · 185 + 87 = 272 (Y) · 432 + 436 = 868 (A) · 607 + 314 = 921 (O) · 618 + 342 = 960 (H) · 232 + 288 = 520 (S) · 368 + 287 = 655 (V)

Clue 4 (Subtraction): "TRACES PROVE THE VILLAINS CREST IS CRIMSON"

1005 - 323 = 682 (T) · 312 - 174 = 138 (M) · 993 - 166 = 827 (E) · 932 - 361 = 571 (H) · 798 - 228 = 570 (S) · 713 - 126 = 587 (A) · 421 - 54 = 367 (P) · 786 - 221 = 565 (C) · 1115 - 377 = 738 (L) · 731 - 186 = 545 (O) · 412 - 120 = 292 (I) · 185 - 62 = 123 (R) · 704 - 150 = 554 (N) · 231 - 63 = 168 (V)

Clue 5 (Division facts (1-12)): surviving statement is box 3 → Dennis Nedry

6 ÷ 6 = 1 · 120 ÷ 12 = 10 · 18 ÷ 9 = 2 · 64 ÷ 8 = 8 · 110 ÷ 10 = 11 · 20 ÷ 5 = 4 · 108 ÷ 12 = 9 · 54 ÷ 9 = 6 · 21 ÷ 3 = 7 · 20 ÷ 4 = 5 · 36 ÷ 3 = 12