The Diamond Sabotage Mystery

Grade 8 math · Addition, Multiplication, Rounding, Word problems, Division · Reading level grades 7-9

Detective: _____ **Date:** _____

Just hours before the World Championship game, someone broke into Grand Slam Stadium and sabotaged the championship trophy display! The head groundskeeper saw a shadow dart off into the dugout. Solve the clues to reveal who invaded the field!

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 player is _____

Possible suspects

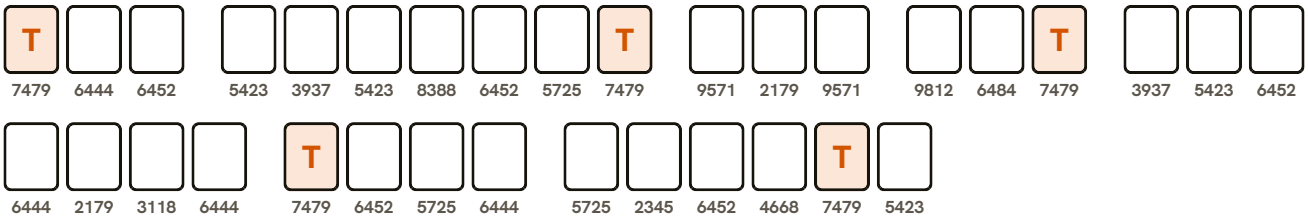
Cross off a row as each clue rules it out. The one left at the end is the culprit.

NAME	PITCH SPECIALTY	SIGNATURE GEAR	THROWING HAND	HAIR STYLE	FIELD DISTRACTION
Francisco Lindor	Knuckleball Float	Custom Glove	Left Handed Thrower	Dark Buzz Cut	Loud Air Horns
Elly De La Cruz	Knuckleball Float	Weighted Armor	Left Handed Thrower	Dark Buzz Cut	Sticky Pine Tar
Julio Rodriguez	Slider Spin	Custom Glove	Right Handed Thrower	Blonde Stubble	Loud Air Horns
Marcus Semien	Fastball Blast	Weighted Armor	Left Handed Thrower	Blonde Stubble	Bright Floodlights
Corey Seager	Changeup Drop	Custom Glove	Right Handed Thrower	Blonde Stubble	Sticky Pine Tar
Trea Turner	Changeup Drop	Custom Glove	Left Handed Thrower	Red Curly Locks	Sticky Pine Tar
Adley Rutschman	Slider Spin	High Tech Cleats	Left Handed Thrower	Dark Buzz Cut	Sticky Pine Tar
Gunnar Henderson	Slider Spin	Weighted Armor	Right Handed Thrower	Dark Buzz Cut	Loud Air Horns
Mookie Betts	Knuckleball Float	Radar Visor	Left Handed Thrower	Blonde Stubble	Loud Air Horns
Bryce Harper	Knuckleball Float	Radar Visor	Left Handed Thrower	Dark Buzz Cut	Sticky Pine Tar
Gerrit Cole	Knuckleball Float	Radar Visor	Left Handed Thrower	Red Curly Locks	Bright Floodlights
Corbin Carroll	Curveball Curve	Weighted Armor	Right Handed Thrower	Red Curly Locks	Bright Floodlights
Bobby Witt	Slider Spin	High Tech Cleats	Right Handed Thrower	Red Curly Locks	Sticky Pine Tar
Austin Riley	Slider Spin	Radar Visor	Left Handed Thrower	Dark Buzz Cut	Sticky Pine Tar
Cal Raleigh	Slider Spin	High Tech Cleats	Right Handed Thrower	Red Curly Locks	Loud Air Horns
Freddie Freeman	Fastball Blast	Radar Visor	Right Handed Thrower	Dark Buzz Cut	Sticky Pine Tar
Ronald Acuna	Fastball Blast	Titanium Bat	Left Handed Thrower	Dark Buzz Cut	Sticky Pine Tar
Zack Wheeler	Curveball Curve	Radar Visor	Left Handed Thrower	Dark Buzz Cut	Loud Air Horns
Paul Skenes	Curveball Curve	Weighted Armor	Left Handed Thrower	Blonde Stubble	Bright Floodlights
Shohei Ohtani	Changeup Drop	Titanium Bat	Right Handed Thrower	Dark Buzz Cut	Loud Air Horns
Juan Soto	Fastball Blast	Custom Glove	Left Handed Thrower	Red Curly Locks	Bright Floodlights

CLUE 1 Addition

> The stadium security team tallied the total number of missing baseballs across both dugouts to track the suspect.

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



4333 + 3146 = ☐ → T

6180 + 3391 = ☐ → D

3058 + 1610 = ☐ → A

2470 + 3255 = ☐ → C

5681 + 4131 = ☐ → N

3511 + 1912 = ☐ → S

2050 + 1068 = ☐ → G

2161 + 4283 = ☐ → H

4433 + 3955 = ☐ → P

1608 + 2329 = ☐ → U

1487 + 692 = ☐ → I

3202 + 3282 = ☐ → O

3781 + 2671 = ☐ → E

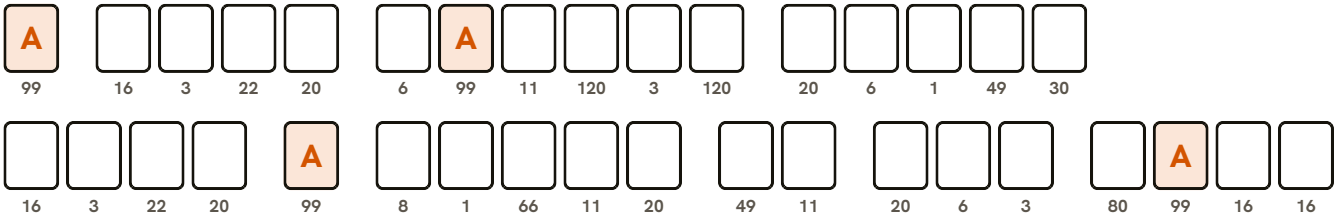
930 + 1415 = ☐ → L

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Multiplication facts (1-12)

> The equipment manager counted the gear cases stored in equal rows along the home team locker room.

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



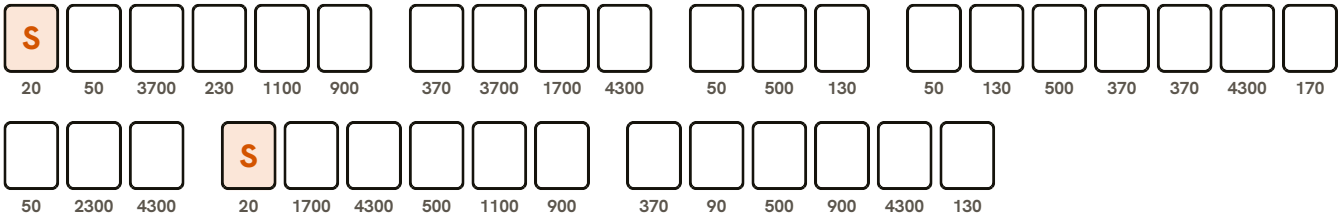
9 × 11 = ☐ → A	8 × 2 = ☐ → L	10 × 2 = ☐ → T
6 × 11 = ☐ → I	1 × 3 = ☐ → E	1 × 11 = ☐ → N
7 × 7 = ☐ → O	10 × 3 = ☐ → W	10 × 12 = ☐ → D
2 × 11 = ☐ → F	6 × 1 = ☐ → H	1 × 8 = ☐ → P
10 × 8 = ☐ → B		1 × 1 = ☐ → R

Scratch space:

CLUE 3 Rounding

The speed radar gun on the outfield wall only displays pitch velocity rounded to the nearest ten.

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



Round 23 to the nearest ten ☐ → **S**

Round 1,652 to the nearest hundred ☐ → **N**

Round 4,337 to the nearest hundred ☐ → **E**

Round 172 to the nearest ten ☐ → **D**

Round 1,079 to the nearest hundred ☐ → **K**

Round 132 to the nearest ten ☐ → **R**

Round 233 to the nearest ten ☐ → **C**

Round 93 to the nearest ten ☐ → **L**

Round 3,697 to the nearest hundred ☐ → **I**

Round 52 to the nearest ten ☐ → **T**

Round 371 to the nearest ten ☐ → **P**

Round 455 to the nearest hundred ☐ → **A**

Round 2,313 to the nearest hundred ☐ → **H**

Round 881 to the nearest hundred ☐ → **Y**

Scratch space:

CLUE 4 Word problems

The head umpire reviewed the inventory report detailing the bats and helmets left behind.

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

A strand of | D | | | | | | | | C | | T | hair turned up at the scene.

D								C		T
54	16	87	69	20	103	7	7		103	

Head umpire lined up 6 rows of 9 baseballs. How many baseballs in all?

Answer: ☐ → D

Head umpire lined up 4 rows of 4 resin bags. How many resin bags in all?

Answer: ☐ → A

There were 120 baseballs. 33 were used up. How many baseballs are left?

Answer: ☐ → R

Head umpire found 9 pine tar rags yesterday and 11 more today. How many pine tar rags in all?

Answer: ☐ → B

There were 107 resin bags. 4 were used up. How many resin bags are left?

Answer: ☐ → U

Head umpire found 2 resin bags yesterday and 5 more today. How many resin bags in all?

Answer: ☐ → Z

Head umpire found 52 baseballs yesterday and 17 more today. How many baseballs in all?

Answer: ☐ → K

Scratch space:

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

> The grounds crew divided the championship souvenir pins equally among all the ball field workers.

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 ÷ 2 = ☐	40 ÷ 8 = ☐	20 ÷ 5 = ☐	20 ÷ 10 = ☐	18 ÷ 6 = ☐
80 ÷ 10 = ☐	21 ÷ 3 = ☐	81 ÷ 9 = ☐	70 ÷ 7 = ☐	6 ÷ 6 = ☐
99 ÷ 9 = ☐				

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain floated a slow changeup pitch, then adjusted the radar visor.
2. The villain swept a sudden slider pitch, then strapped on the weighted armor.
3. The villain swept a sudden slider pitch, then grabbed the titanium bat.
4. The villain threw a roaring fastball pitch, then grabbed the titanium bat.
5. The villain danced a wild knuckleball pitch, then adjusted the radar visor.
6. The villain swept a sudden slider pitch, then adjusted the radar visor.
7. The villain floated a slow changeup pitch, then grabbed the titanium bat.
8. The villain snapped a sharp curveball pitch, then laced up the high tech cleats.
9. The villain threw a roaring fastball pitch, then adjusted the radar visor.
10. The villain threw a roaring fastball pitch, then laced up the high tech cleats.
11. The villain threw a roaring fastball pitch, then flapped the custom glove.
12. The villain danced a wild knuckleball pitch, then strapped on the weighted armor.

TEACHER / PARENT

Answer Key

The Diamond Sabotage Mystery

Culprit: Elly De La Cruz

Knuckleball Float · Weighted Armor · Left Handed Thrower · Dark Buzz Cut · Sticky Pine Tar

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 18 → Clue 2 12 → Clue 3 5 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Addition): "THE SUSPECT DID NOT USE HIGH TECH CLEATS"

4333 + 3146 = 7479 (T) · 6180 + 3391 = 9571 (D) · 3058 + 1610 = 4668 (A) · 2470 + 3255 = 5725 (C) · 5681 + 4131 = 9812 (N) · 3511 + 1912 = 5423 (S) · 2050 + 1068 = 3118 (G) · 2161 + 4283 = 6444 (H) · 4433 + 3955 = 8388 (P) · 1608 + 2329 = 3937 (U) · 1487 + 692 = 2179 (I) · 3202 + 3282 = 6484 (O) · 3781 + 2671 = 6452 (E) · 930 + 1415 = 2345 (L)

Clue 2 (Multiplication facts (1-12)): "A LEFT HANDED THROW LEFT A PRINT ON THE BALL"

9 × 11 = 99 (A) · 8 × 2 = 16 (L) · 10 × 2 = 20 (T) · 6 × 11 = 66 (I) · 1 × 3 = 3 (E) · 1 × 11 = 11 (N) · 7 × 7 = 49 (O) · 10 × 3 = 30 (W) · 10 × 12 = 120 (D) · 2 × 11 = 22 (F) · 6 × 1 = 6 (H) · 1 × 8 = 8 (P) · 1 × 1 = 1 (R) · 10 × 8 = 80 (B)

Clue 3 (Rounding): "STICKY PINE TAR TRAPPED THE SNEAKY PLAYER"

Round 23 to the nearest ten = 20 (S) · Round 1,652 to the nearest hundred = 1700 (N) · Round 4,337 to the nearest hundred = 4300 (E) · Round 172 to the nearest ten = 170 (D) · Round 1,079 to the nearest hundred = 1100 (K) · Round 132 to the nearest ten = 130 (R) · Round 233 to the nearest ten = 230 (C) · Round 93 to the nearest ten = 90 (L) · Round 3,697 to the nearest hundred = 3700 (I) · Round 52 to the nearest ten = 50 (T) · Round 371 to the nearest ten = 370 (P) · Round 455 to the nearest hundred = 500 (A) · Round 2,313 to the nearest hundred = 2300 (H) · Round 881 to the nearest hundred = 900 (Y)

Clue 4 (Word problems): "DARK BUZZ CUT"

Head umpire lined up 6 rows of 9 baseballs. How many baseballs in all? = 54 (D) · Head umpire lined up 4 rows of 4 resin bags. How many resin bags in all? = 16 (A) · There were 120 baseballs. 33 were used up. How many baseballs are left? = 87 (R) · Head umpire found 9 pine tar rags yesterday and 11 more today. How many pine tar rags in all? = 20 (B) · There were 107 resin bags. 4 were used up. How many resin bags are left? = 103 (U) · Head umpire found 2 resin bags yesterday and 5 more today. How many resin bags in all? = 7 (Z) · Head umpire found 52 baseballs yesterday and 17 more today. How many baseballs in all? = 69 (K)

Clue 5 (Division facts (1-12)): surviving statement is box 12 → Elly De La Cruz

12 ÷ 2 = 6 · 40 ÷ 8 = 5 · 20 ÷ 5 = 4 · 20 ÷ 10 = 2 · 18 ÷ 6 = 3 · 80 ÷ 10 = 8 · 21 ÷ 3 = 7 · 81 ÷ 9 = 9 · 70 ÷ 7 = 10 · 6 ÷ 6 = 1 · 99 ÷ 9 = 11