



The Golden Boot Mystery

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

Detective: _____ Date: _____

The shiny Golden Boot trophy has vanished from the display case right before the big final match! The Head Coach needs your help to search the stadium and find which soccer star took it.

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	LUCKY GEAR	SIGNATURE MOVE	DOMINANT FOOT	LOCKER HAIR	BENCH SNACK
Marta Vieira	gold cleats	bicycle kick	left footed	spiky hair	energy bars
Asisat Oshoala	thermal sleeve	header shot	right footed	spiky hair	orange slices
Son Heung Min	silver shin guards	header shot	left footed	braided hair	sports drinks
Kylian Mbappe	neon goalie gloves	sliding tackle	left footed	braided hair	energy bars
Bukayo Saka	silver shin guards	sliding tackle	left footed	spiky hair	energy bars
Sophia Smith	gold cleats	header shot	left footed	spiky hair	energy bars
Wendie Renard	silver shin guards	bicycle kick	left footed	ponytail hair	energy bars
Sam Kerr	gold cleats	diving save	right footed	ponytail hair	sports drinks
Harry Kane	striped headband	sliding tackle	right footed	ponytail hair	orange slices
Cristiano Ronaldo	thermal sleeve	diving save	right footed	braided hair	sports drinks
Kevin De Bruyne	neon goalie gloves	header shot	left footed	braided hair	sports drinks
Lionel Messi	gold cleats	rainbow flick	left footed	ponytail hair	sports drinks
Trinity Rodman	thermal sleeve	header shot	left footed	braided hair	sports drinks
Lucy Bronze	silver shin guards	rainbow flick	right footed	spiky hair	orange slices
Erling Haaland	striped headband	diving save	left footed	spiky hair	energy bars
Neymar Jr	silver shin guards	sliding tackle	right footed	spiky hair	energy bars
Mohamed Salah	neon goalie gloves	header shot	left footed	ponytail hair	energy bars
Megan Rapinoe	striped headband	bicycle kick	right footed	ponytail hair	energy bars
Luka Modric	silver shin guards	sliding tackle	right footed	ponytail hair	energy bars
Robert Lewandowski	thermal sleeve	bicycle kick	left footed	spiky hair	energy bars
Alex Morgan	thermal sleeve	bicycle kick	left footed	spiky hair	sports drinks

CLUE 1

The big stadium scoreboard is dusty and only shows rounded numbers. We rounded the timer readout to the nearest ten to unlock the first clue.

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

80 90 50 3000 70 30 50 3000 800 70 50 200 8000 70 80 6000 200 50 20

90 50 20 800 50 3000 200 90 70 80

Round 76 to the nearest ten $\rightarrow$ **T**

Round 6,450 to the nearest thousand $\rightarrow$ **U**

Round 19 to the nearest ten → **A**

Round 7,803 to the nearest thousand → **N**

Round 2,976 to the nearest thousand → **R**

Round 87 to the nearest ten $\rightarrow$ **H**

Round 47 to the nearest ten $\rightarrow$ **E**

Round 26 to the nearest ten $\rightarrow$ **V**

Round 775 to the nearest hundred $\rightarrow$ **D**

Round 239 to the nearest hundred $\rightarrow$ **S**

Round 72 to the nearest ten $\rightarrow$ **0**

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Addition

The junior assistant added up all the practice soccer balls in the bin to find where the suspect ran.

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

T																			
906	406	484	330	805	484	622	448	602	435	428	622	602	484	587	448	224	950	448	330

		T		T					T				T	
708	224	906	406	906	406	484	428	484	828	906	828	599	599	906

$491 + 415 = \square \rightarrow$ T	$208 + 394 = \square \rightarrow$ Y	$299 + 136 = \square \rightarrow$ P
$316 + 306 = \square \rightarrow$ A	$145 + 185 = \square \rightarrow$ S	$279 + 549 = \square \rightarrow$ F
$79 + 145 = \square \rightarrow$ I	$134 + 272 = \square \rightarrow$ H	$244 + 343 = \square \rightarrow$ R
$208 + 240 = \square \rightarrow$ K	$173 + 311 = \square \rightarrow$ E	$296 + 303 = \square \rightarrow$ O
$377 + 331 = \square \rightarrow$ W	$150 + 278 = \square \rightarrow$ L	$355 + 595 = \square \rightarrow$ C
$290 + 515 = \square \rightarrow$ N		

Scratch space:

CLUE 3

The coach checked the clean jersey rack and subtracted the missing shirts to find the next clue.

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



 435 843 293 524 205 524 745 293 779 435 293 203 435 524



 779 869 205 877 779 843 498 293 877 293 869 766 498 138 203 869 524

$467 - 32 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{T}}$

$401 - 198 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{A}}$

$664 - 140 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{S}}$

$1012 - 143 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{R}}$

$974 - 97 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{N}}$

$894 - 115 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{C}}$

$$753 - 255 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{Y}}$$

$$1216 - 373 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{H}}$$

$789 - 23 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{G}}$

$$522 - 317 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{U}}$$

$607 - 314 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{E}}$

$$810 - 65 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{P}}$$

$$342 - 204 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\mathbf{B}}$$

Scratch space:

CLUE 4

Multiplication facts (1-12)

We counted the neat rows of training cones on the grass and multiplied them to locate a dropped note.

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

T					T			T										
14	2	121	144	121	14	121	1	14	132	4	121	90	99	33	50	12	144	

90	15	132	100	55	2	18	132	66	

$7 \times 2 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{T}}$

$2 \times 1 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{H}}$

$10 \times 5 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{U}}$

$5 \times 3 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{P}}$

$6 \times 3 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{A}}$

$5 \times 11 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{Y}}$

$12 \times 11 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{I}}$

$10 \times 10 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{K}}$

$6 \times 2 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{N}}$

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

$9 \times 10 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{S}}$

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

$11 \times 6 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{R}}$

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

$1 \times 4 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{V}}$

$12 \times 12 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{D}}$

$3 \times 11 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{O}}$

Scratch space:

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

We split the extra juice boxes equally among the starting lineup, and the leftover boxes pointed us to 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:

$10 \div 2 = \boxed{}$

$120 \div 10 = \boxed{}$

$33 \div 11 = \boxed{}$

$4 \div 2 = \boxed{}$

$45 \div 5 = \boxed{}$

$32 \div 4 = \boxed{}$

$12 \div 3 = \boxed{}$

$99 \div 9 = \boxed{}$

$24 \div 4 = \boxed{}$

$70 \div 10 = \boxed{}$

$5 \div 5 = \boxed{}$

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain dashes across the field in gold cleats, then slides on the grass for a sliding tackle.
2. The villain dashes across the field in gold cleats, then leaps sideways for a diving save.
3. The villain blocks the ball with silver shin guards, then slides on the grass for a sliding tackle.
4. The villain nods to the crowd with a striped headband, then scoops the ball with a rainbow flick.
5. The villain stretches a warm arm in a thermal sleeve, then leaps high for a bicycle kick.
6. The villain blocks the ball with silver shin guards, then scores a goal with a header shot.
7. The villain catches the trophy with neon goalie gloves, then scoops the ball with a rainbow flick.
8. The villain nods to the crowd with a striped headband, then slides on the grass for a sliding tackle.
9. The villain stretches a warm arm in a thermal sleeve, then scoops the ball with a rainbow flick.
10. The villain dashes across the field in gold cleats, then leaps high for a bicycle kick.
11. The villain stretches a warm arm in a thermal sleeve, then scores a goal with a header shot.
12. The villain nods to the crowd with a striped headband, then leaps sideways for a diving save.

Answer Key

The Golden Boot Mystery

Culprit: Marta Vieira

gold cleats · bicycle kick · left footed · spiky hair · energy bars

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 15 → Clue 2 8 → Clue 3 6 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Rounding): "THE ROVER DOES NOT USE A HEADER SHOT"

Round 76 to the nearest ten = 80 (T) · Round 6,450 to the nearest thousand = 6000 (U) · Round 19 to the nearest ten = 20 (A) · Round 7,803 to the nearest thousand = 8000 (N) · Round 2,976 to the nearest thousand = 3000 (R) · Round 87 to the nearest ten = 90 (H) · Round 47 to the nearest ten = 50 (E) · Round 26 to the nearest ten = 30 (V) · Round 775 to the nearest hundred = 800 (D) · Round 239 to the nearest hundred = 200 (S) · Round 72 to the nearest ten = 70 (O)

Clue 2 (Addition): "THE SNEAKY PLAYER KICKS WITH THE LEFT FOOT"

$491 + 415 = 906$ (T) · $208 + 394 = 602$ (Y) · $299 + 136 = 435$ (P) · $316 + 306 = 622$ (A) · $145 + 185 = 330$ (S) · $279 + 549 = 828$ (F) · $79 + 145 = 224$ (I) · $134 + 272 = 406$ (H) · $244 + 343 = 587$ (R) · $208 + 240 = 448$ (K) · $173 + 311 = 484$ (E) · $296 + 303 = 599$ (O) · $377 + 331 = 708$ (W) · $150 + 278 = 428$ (L) · $355 + 595 = 950$ (C) · $290 + 515 = 805$ (N)

Clue 3 (Subtraction): "THE SUSPECT EATS CRUNCHY ENERGY BARS"

$467 - 32 = 435$ (T) · $401 - 198 = 203$ (A) · $664 - 140 = 524$ (S) · $1012 - 143 = 869$ (R) · $974 - 97 = 877$ (N) · $894 - 115 = 779$ (C) · $753 - 255 = 498$ (Y) · $1216 - 373 = 843$ (H) · $789 - 23 = 766$ (G) · $522 - 317 = 205$ (U) · $607 - 314 = 293$ (E) · $810 - 65 = 745$ (P) · $342 - 204 = 138$ (B)

Clue 4 (Multiplication facts (1-12)): "THE DETECTIVES FOUND SPIKY HAIR"

$7 \times 2 = 14$ (T) · $2 \times 1 = 2$ (H) · $10 \times 5 = 50$ (U) · $5 \times 3 = 15$ (P) · $6 \times 3 = 18$ (A) · $5 \times 11 = 55$ (Y) · $12 \times 11 = 132$ (I) · $10 \times 10 = 100$ (K) · $6 \times 2 = 12$ (N) · $1 \times 1 = 1$ (C) · $9 \times 10 = 90$ (S) · $11 \times 11 = 121$ (E) · $11 \times 6 = 66$ (R) · $9 \times 11 = 99$ (F) · $1 \times 4 = 4$ (V) · $12 \times 12 = 144$ (D) · $3 \times 11 = 33$ (O)

Clue 5 (Division facts (1-12)): surviving statement is box 10 → Marta Vieira

$10 \div 2 = 5$ · $120 \div 10 = 12$ · $33 \div 11 = 3$ · $4 \div 2 = 2$ · $45 \div 5 = 9$ · $32 \div 4 = 8$ · $12 \div 3 = 4$ · $99 \div 9 = 11$ · $24 \div 4 = 6$ · $70 \div 10 = 7$ · $5 \div 5 = 1$