



The Grand Catnip Museum Heist

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

Detective: _____ Date: _____

The priceless Golden Ball of Yarn has been stolen right out of its glass display case! The clever culprit escaped into the night, leaving behind paw prints, stray fur, and a trail of puzzling math clues.

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 clawed bandit is _____

Possible suspects

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

NAME	SPECIAL SKILL	SECRET TRICK	DOMINANT PAW	FUR PATTERN	BIGGEST FEAR
Tom	High Jump	Cardboard Box Camouflage	Right-pawed	Sleek Black Coat	Squeaky Toy Noise
Socks	Night Vision	Catnip Immunity	Right-pawed	Tabby Stripes	Squeaky Toy Noise
Luna	High Jump	Fish Breath Attack	Right-pawed	Tabby Stripes	Vacuum Cleaner Sound
Pumpkin	Silent Paws	Laser Chase Mastery	Left-pawed	Calico Fur	Squeaky Toy Noise
Ziggy	Mega Scratch	Catnip Immunity	Left-pawed	Tabby Stripes	Vacuum Cleaner Sound
Sylvester	High Jump	Cardboard Box Camouflage	Left-pawed	Calico Fur	Spray Water Bottle
Milo	Super Purr	Laser Chase Mastery	Left-pawed	Tabby Stripes	Squeaky Toy Noise
Cleo	Mega Scratch	Catnip Immunity	Right-pawed	Tabby Stripes	Squeaky Toy Noise
Lucky	High Jump	Cardboard Box Camouflage	Left-pawed	Sleek Black Coat	Spray Water Bottle
Gizmo	Night Vision	Cardboard Box Camouflage	Left-pawed	Tabby Stripes	Squeaky Toy Noise
Garfield	Mega Scratch	Fish Breath Attack	Left-pawed	Tabby Stripes	Squeaky Toy Noise
Nala	Super Purr	Yarn Untangling	Left-pawed	Tabby Stripes	Squeaky Toy Noise
Felix	High Jump	Cardboard Box Camouflage	Left-pawed	Tabby Stripes	Squeaky Toy Noise
Chloe	High Jump	Catnip Immunity	Right-pawed	Sleek Black Coat	Vacuum Cleaner Sound
Bella	Silent Paws	Fish Breath Attack	Left-pawed	Sleek Black Coat	Vacuum Cleaner Sound
Simba	Silent Paws	Laser Chase Mastery	Right-pawed	Tabby Stripes	Squeaky Toy Noise
Shadow	Night Vision	Laser Chase Mastery	Left-pawed	Tabby Stripes	Vacuum Cleaner Sound
Oliver	Night Vision	Catnip Immunity	Left-pawed	Calico Fur	Vacuum Cleaner Sound
Whiskers	Night Vision	Catnip Immunity	Right-pawed	Calico Fur	Vacuum Cleaner Sound
Mittens	Night Vision	Laser Chase Mastery	Left-pawed	Sleek Black Coat	Spray Water Bottle
Tigger	Silent Paws	Fish Breath Attack	Left-pawed	Calico Fur	Squeaky Toy Noise

CLUE 1

The museum security lock has a digital screen. To crack the first code, we must look closely at the digit in the tens place.

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

500 200 1000 50 600 9000 9000 3000 600 20 90 30 1000 60 20 30 500

10 60 1000 80 3000 40 20 10 20 500 3000 20 300 9000 600 20 300

What is the value of the 5 in 4,537? → **T**

What is the value of the 9 in 9,541? → **L**

What is the value of the 5 in 252? → **V**

What is the value of the 1 in 3,517? → **U**

What is the value of the 1 in 31,067? → **E**

What is the value of the 3 in 43,174? → **A**

What is the value of the 3 in 1,316? → **G**

What is the value of the 2 in 255? → **H**

What is the value of the 4 in 3,349? → **R**

What is the value of the 9 in 493? → **D**

What is the value of the 8 in 285? → **Y**

What is the value of the 6 in 8,614? →

What is the value of the 2 in 6,326? → **N**

What is the value of the 3 in 937? →

What is the value of the 6 in 763? → **S**

Scratch space:

CLUE 2

The thief left a note with a big number on it. A witness says we need to round it to the nearest hundred to find the secret path.

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

30 90 700

3000 600 400 4000 60 30

80 500 60 2000 700 4000

500 60 30 90

30 90 700

200 700 300 30

2000 600 500

Round 28 to the nearest ten $\rightarrow$ **T**

Round 661 to the nearest hundred $\rightarrow$ **E**

Round 3,637 to the nearest thousand $\rightarrow$ **D**

Round 618 to the nearest hundred $\rightarrow$ **A**

Round 3,208 to the nearest thousand $\rightarrow$ **B**

Round 78 to the nearest ten $\rightarrow$ **S**

Round 60 to the nearest ten $\rightarrow$

Round 297 to the nearest hundred → **F**

Round 530 to the nearest hundred $\rightarrow$ **W**

Round 93 to the nearest ten $\rightarrow$ **H**

Round 1,635 to the nearest thousand → **P**

Round 422 to the nearest hundred $\rightarrow$ **N**

Round 228 to the nearest hundred $\rightarrow$ **L**

Scratch space:

CLUE 3 Addition

Let us tally up the total number of catnip mice left behind in the exhibits to see how many rooms the bandit visited.

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

T			T												
398	242	922	398	242	844	922	462	339	313	295	462	339	585	256	313

							T		
443	790	349	922	313	712	674	398	585	674

$270 + 128 = \square \rightarrow$ T	$270 + 574 = \square \rightarrow$ I	$112 + 130 = \square \rightarrow$ H
$306 + 616 = \square \rightarrow$ E	$179 + 77 = \square \rightarrow$ M	$166 + 277 = \square \rightarrow$ S
$98 + 215 = \square \rightarrow$ A	$120 + 219 = \square \rightarrow$ R	$358 + 316 = \square \rightarrow$ Y
$102 + 193 = \square \rightarrow$ N	$279 + 306 = \square \rightarrow$ O	$350 + 362 = \square \rightarrow$ K
$286 + 176 = \square \rightarrow$ F	$271 + 519 = \square \rightarrow$ Q	$185 + 164 = \square \rightarrow$ U

Scratch space:

CLUE 4 Subtraction

The suspect knocked some fish treats out of a jar. If we subtract the remaining treats from the starting amount, we will get our clue.

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

T							T																						
496	156	793	793	419	715	496	791	333	543	726	715	102	726	791	726	715	726	726	434										
333	434		T																										

801 - 305 = → T	670 - 189 = → H	708 - 165 = → P
1229 - 348 = → K	461 - 128 = → I	1061 - 335 = → E
1191 - 400 = → R	468 - 312 = → A	507 - 73 = → N
163 - 61 = → W	1128 - 335 = → B	577 - 159 = → D
793 - 374 = → Y	843 - 128 = → S	

Scratch space:

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

We found a pile of tuna cans. If we share them equally among the three detective pups, we can figure out the final secret room.

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:

$44 \div 4 = \boxed{}$

$11 \div 11 = \boxed{}$

$33 \div 11 = \boxed{}$

$7 \div 1 = \boxed{}$

$70 \div 7 = \boxed{}$

$4 \div 1 = \boxed{}$

$120 \div 10 = \boxed{}$

$16 \div 2 = \boxed{}$

$15 \div 3 = \boxed{}$

$66 \div 11 = \boxed{}$

$6 \div 3 = \boxed{}$

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain swipes the golden mouse statue, then chases a stray dust bunny.
2. The villain climbs up the giant cat tree, then chases a stray dust bunny.
3. The villain sneaks through the window, then scampers under the rug.
4. The villain knocks over the fishbowl, then escapes across the rooftop.
5. The villain climbs up the giant cat tree, then naps in a sunbeam.
6. The villain climbs up the giant cat tree, then scampers under the rug.
7. The villain climbs up the giant cat tree, then hides inside a cardboard box.
8. The villain shreds the heavy curtains, then naps in a sunbeam.
9. The villain shreds the heavy curtains, then scampers under the rug.
10. The villain shreds the heavy curtains, then chases a stray dust bunny.
11. The villain knocks over the fishbowl, then hides inside a cardboard box.
12. The villain knocks over the fishbowl, then scampers under the rug.

Answer Key

The Grand Catnip Museum Heist

Culprit: Gizmo

Night Vision · Cardboard Box Camouflage · Left-pawed · Tabby Stripes · Squeaky Toy Noise

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 20 → Clue 2 13 → Clue 3 6 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Place value): "THE VILLAIN DOES NOT USE YARN UNTANGLING"

What is the value of the 5 in 4,537? = 500 (T) · What is the value of the 9 in 9,541? = 9000 (L) · What is the value of the 5 in 252? = 50 (V) · What is the value of the 1 in 3,517? = 10 (U) · What is the value of the 1 in 31,067? = 1000 (E) · What is the value of the 3 in 43,174? = 3000 (A) · What is the value of the 3 in 1,316? = 300 (G) · What is the value of the 2 in 255? = 200 (H) · What is the value of the 4 in 3,349? = 40 (R) · What is the value of the 9 in 493? = 90 (D) · What is the value of the 8 in 285? = 80 (Y) · What is the value of the 6 in 8,614? = 600 (I) · What is the value of the 2 in 6,326? = 20 (N) · What is the value of the 3 in 937? = 30 (O) · What is the value of the 6 in 763? = 60 (S)

Clue 2 (Rounding): "THE BANDIT SWIPED WITH THE LEFT PAW"

Round 28 to the nearest ten = 30 (T) · Round 661 to the nearest hundred = 700 (E) · Round 3,637 to the nearest thousand = 4000 (D) · Round 618 to the nearest hundred = 600 (A) · Round 3,208 to the nearest thousand = 3000 (B) · Round 78 to the nearest ten = 80 (S) · Round 60 to the nearest ten = 60 (I) · Round 297 to the nearest hundred = 300 (F) · Round 530 to the nearest hundred = 500 (W) · Round 93 to the nearest ten = 90 (H) · Round 1,635 to the nearest thousand = 2000 (P) · Round 422 to the nearest hundred = 400 (N) · Round 228 to the nearest hundred = 200 (L)

Clue 3 (Addition): "THE THIEF RAN FROM A SQUEAKY TOY"

$270 + 128 = 398$ (T) · $270 + 574 = 844$ (I) · $112 + 130 = 242$ (H) · $306 + 616 = 922$ (E) · $179 + 77 = 256$ (M) · $166 + 277 = 443$ (S) · $98 + 215 = 313$ (A) · $120 + 219 = 339$ (R) · $358 + 316 = 674$ (Y) · $102 + 193 = 295$ (N) · $279 + 306 = 585$ (O) · $350 + 362 = 712$ (K) · $286 + 176 = 462$ (F) · $271 + 519 = 790$ (Q) · $185 + 164 = 349$ (U)

Clue 4 (Subtraction): "TABBY STRIPES WERE SEEN IN THE DARK"

$801 - 305 = 496$ (T) · $670 - 189 = 481$ (H) · $708 - 165 = 543$ (P) · $1229 - 348 = 881$ (K) · $461 - 128 = 333$ (I) · $1061 - 335 = 726$ (E) · $1191 - 400 = 791$ (R) · $468 - 312 = 156$ (A) · $507 - 73 = 434$ (N) · $163 - 61 = 102$ (W) · $1128 - 335 = 793$ (B) · $577 - 159 = 418$ (D) · $793 - 374 = 419$ (Y) · $843 - 128 = 715$ (S)

Clue 5 (Division facts (1-12)): surviving statement is box 9 → Gizmo

$44 \div 4 = 11$ · $11 \div 11 = 1$ · $33 \div 11 = 3$ · $7 \div 1 = 7$ · $70 \div 7 = 10$ · $4 \div 1 = 4$ · $120 \div 10 = 12$ · $16 \div 2 = 8$ · $15 \div 3 = 5$ · $66 \div 11 = 6$ · $6 \div 3 = 2$