The Grand Slam Mystery

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

Detective: _____ **Date:** _____

Just hours before Game Seven of the Championship Series, someone tampered with the field equipment and hid the game balls. The head groundskeeper needs your analytical skills to decode field reports, inspect bullpen clues, and unmask the stadium saboteur before play ball.

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 saboteur is _____

Possible suspects

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

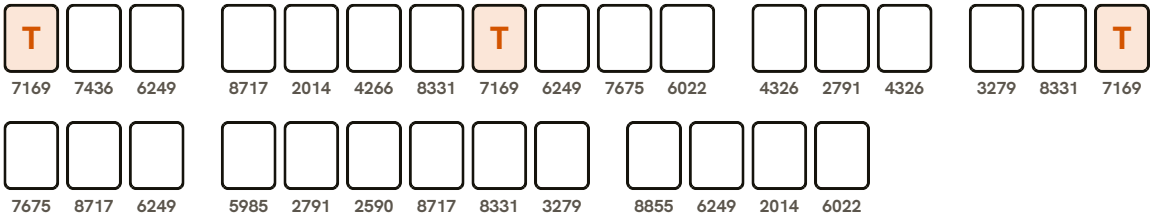
NAME	SIGNATURE PITCH	GEAR BRAND	BATTING STANCE	CAP COLOR	PITCH FAULT
Gunnar Henderson	Knuckleball	Mizuno	Lefty Stance	Gold Cap	Slippery Resin
Aaron Judge	Curveball	Easton	Lefty Stance	Gold Cap	Scuffed Ball
Shohei Ohtani	Knuckleball	Wilson	Lefty Stance	Navy Cap	Scuffed Ball
Gerrit Cole	Slider	Easton	Lefty Stance	Red Cap	Slippery Resin
Framber Valdez	Curveball	Louisville	Lefty Stance	Red Cap	Slippery Resin
Bryce Harper	Slider	Wilson	Lefty Stance	Red Cap	Loose Lace
Juan Soto	Fastball	Rawlings	Righty Stance	Gold Cap	Scuffed Ball
Elly De La Cruz	Knuckleball	Mizuno	Righty Stance	Gold Cap	Slippery Resin
Mike Trout	Fastball	Mizuno	Lefty Stance	Navy Cap	Loose Lace
Julio Rodriguez	Curveball	Rawlings	Lefty Stance	Red Cap	Slippery Resin
Adley Rutschman	Curveball	Easton	Righty Stance	Navy Cap	Slippery Resin
Paul Skenes	Changeup	Mizuno	Lefty Stance	Red Cap	Scuffed Ball
Ronald Acuna	Slider	Easton	Lefty Stance	Gold Cap	Slippery Resin
Logan Webb	Knuckleball	Wilson	Lefty Stance	Red Cap	Loose Lace
Tarik Skubal	Fastball	Louisville	Righty Stance	Red Cap	Slippery Resin
Trea Turner	Changeup	Mizuno	Lefty Stance	Red Cap	Slippery Resin
Freddie Freeman	Slider	Wilson	Lefty Stance	Red Cap	Slippery Resin
Bobby Witt Jr	Changeup	Rawlings	Lefty Stance	Navy Cap	Slippery Resin
Jose Altuve	Changeup	Wilson	Lefty Stance	Red Cap	Slippery Resin
Zack Wheeler	Knuckleball	Easton	Righty Stance	Gold Cap	Loose Lace
Dylan Cease	Slider	Louisville	Righty Stance	Navy Cap	Slippery Resin

make your own at mathcrackers.com

CLUE 1 Addition

To calculate total stadium attendance across all gates, the detective tallied the spectator numbers.

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



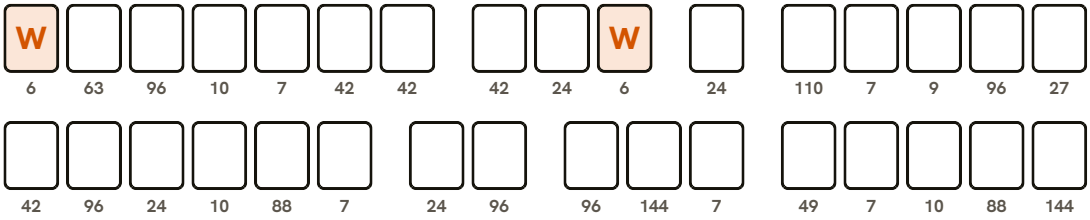
4289 + 2880 = ☐ → T	3399 + 2850 = ☐ → E	5093 + 3762 = ☐ → G
2284 + 5152 = ☐ → H	1165 + 1626 = ☐ → I	786 + 1804 = ☐ → L
3789 + 4542 = ☐ → O	1936 + 1343 = ☐ → N	4172 + 1850 = ☐ → R
896 + 1118 = ☐ → A	3094 + 4581 = ☐ → U	3024 + 1302 = ☐ → D
2468 + 1798 = ☐ → B	1796 + 4189 = ☐ → W	5097 + 3620 = ☐ → S

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Multiplication facts (1-12)

Calculating pitching machine output required multiplying equal training sets across practice fields.

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



2 × 3 = ☐ → W

11 × 8 = ☐ → C

2 × 12 = ☐ → A

10 × 11 = ☐ → L

12 × 12 = ☐ → H

5 × 2 = ☐ → N

7 × 7 = ☐ → B

12 × 8 = ☐ → T

7 × 9 = ☐ → I

6 × 7 = ☐ → S

9 × 3 = ☐ → Y

7 × 1 = ☐ → E

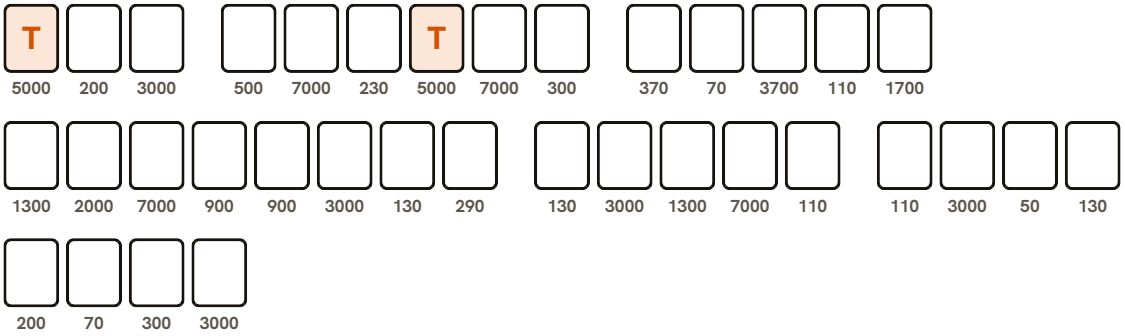
3 × 3 = ☐ → F

Scratch space:

CLUE 3 Rounding

The radar display on the scoreboard only displays speed readings rounded to the nearest integer.

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



Round 5,153 to the nearest thousand ☐ → T

Round 128 to the nearest ten ☐ → R

Round 3,697 to the nearest hundred ☐ → U

Round 1,318 to the nearest hundred ☐ → S

Round 286 to the nearest ten ☐ → Y

Round 1,684 to the nearest hundred ☐ → D

Round 49 to the nearest ten ☐ → A

Round 2,569 to the nearest thousand ☐ → E

Round 898 to the nearest hundred ☐ → P

Round 372 to the nearest ten ☐ → F

Round 256 to the nearest hundred ☐ → M

Round 6,806 to the nearest thousand ☐ → I

Round 70 to the nearest ten ☐ → O

Round 1,947 to the nearest thousand ☐ → L

Round 110 to the nearest ten ☐ → N

Round 226 to the nearest hundred ☐ → H

Round 232 to the nearest ten ☐ → C

Round 467 to the nearest hundred ☐ → V

Scratch space:

CLUE 4 Word problems

Analyzing bat velocity required solving multi-step equipment logs from the dugout inventory.

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

A strand of [R] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] hair turned up at the scene.

68 9 6 115 44 22

Equipment manager found 7 resins yesterday and 61 more today. How many resins in all?

Answer: [ ] → R

Equipment manager found 4 cleats yesterday and 2 more today. How many cleats in all?

Answer: [ ] → D

There were 150 cleats. 35 were used up. How many cleats are left?

Answer: [ ] → C

Equipment manager lined up 2 rows of 11 helmets. How many helmets in all?

Answer: [ ] → P

There were 20 helmets. 11 were used up. How many helmets are left?

Answer: [ ] → E

Equipment manager lined up 4 rows of 11 baseballs. How many baseballs in all?

Answer: [ ] → A

Scratch space:

CLUE 5

Division facts (1-12) - the last clue

Distributing official game balls equally among practice buckets required division operations.

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:

18 ÷ 2 = ☐	6 ÷ 2 = ☐	42 ÷ 6 = ☐	20 ÷ 5 = ☐	120 ÷ 10 = ☐
22 ÷ 2 = ☐	5 ÷ 5 = ☐	18 ÷ 9 = ☐	54 ÷ 9 = ☐	60 ÷ 6 = ☐
15 ÷ 3 = ☐				

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain floated a knuckleball, then swung a Louisville slugger.
2. The villain threw a fastball, then swung a Louisville slugger.
3. The villain spun a curveball, then grabbed Rawlings gear.
4. The villain slid a pitch, then used a Mizuno glove.
5. The villain threw a fastball, then swung an Easton bat.
6. The villain tossed a changeup, then grabbed Rawlings gear.
7. The villain spun a curveball, then swung a Louisville slugger.
8. The villain slid a pitch, then swung an Easton bat.
9. The villain tossed a changeup, then used a Mizuno glove.
10. The villain spun a curveball, then used a Mizuno glove.
11. The villain tossed a changeup, then swung an Easton bat.
12. The villain floated a knuckleball, then grabbed Rawlings gear.

make your own at mathcrackers.com

TEACHER / PARENT

Answer Key

The Grand Slam Mystery

Culprit: Gerrit Cole

Slider · Easton · Lefty Stance · Red Cap · Slippery Resin

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 16 → Clue 2 10 → Clue 3 7 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Addition): "THE SABOTEUR DID NOT USE WILSON GEAR"

4289 + 2880 = 7169 (T) · 3399 + 2850 = 6249 (E) · 5093 + 3762 = 8855 (G) · 2284 + 5152 = 7436 (H) · 1165 + 1626 = 2791 (I) · 786 + 1804 = 2590 (L) · 3789 + 4542 = 8331 (O) · 1936 + 1343 = 3279 (N) · 4172 + 1850 = 6022 (R) · 896 + 1118 = 2014 (A) · 3094 + 4581 = 7675 (U) · 3024 + 1302 = 4326 (D) · 2468 + 1798 = 4266 (B) · 1796 + 4189 = 5985 (W) · 5097 + 3620 = 8717 (S)

Clue 2 (Multiplication facts (1-12)): "WITNESS SAW A LEFTY STANCE AT THE BENCH"

2 × 3 = 6 (W) · 11 × 8 = 88 (C) · 2 × 12 = 24 (A) · 10 × 11 = 110 (L) · 12 × 12 = 144 (H) · 5 × 2 = 10 (N) · 7 × 7 = 49 (B) · 12 × 8 = 96 (T) · 7 × 9 = 63 (I) · 6 × 7 = 42 (S) · 9 × 3 = 27 (Y) · 7 × 1 = 7 (E) · 3 × 3 = 9 (F)

Clue 3 (Rounding): "THE VICTIM FOUND SLIPPERY RESIN NEAR HOME"

Round 5,153 to the nearest thousand = 5000 (T) · Round 128 to the nearest ten = 130 (R) · Round 3,697 to the nearest hundred = 3700 (U) · Round 1,318 to the nearest hundred = 1300 (S) · Round 286 to the nearest ten = 290 (Y) · Round 1,684 to the nearest hundred = 1700 (D) · Round 49 to the nearest ten = 50 (A) · Round 2,569 to the nearest thousand = 3000 (E) · Round 898 to the nearest hundred = 900 (P) · Round 372 to the nearest ten = 370 (F) · Round 256 to the nearest hundred = 300 (M) · Round 6,806 to the nearest thousand = 7000 (I) · Round 70 to the nearest ten = 70 (O) · Round 1,947 to the nearest thousand = 2000 (L) · Round 110 to the nearest ten = 110 (N) · Round 226 to the nearest hundred = 200 (H) · Round 232 to the nearest ten = 230 (C) · Round 467 to the nearest hundred = 500 (V)

Clue 4 (Word problems): "RED CAP"

Equipment manager found 7 resins yesterday and 61 more today. How many resins in all? = 68 (R) · Equipment manager found 4 cleats yesterday and 2 more today. How many cleats in all? = 6 (D) · There were 150 cleats. 35 were used up. How many cleats are left? = 115 (C) · Equipment manager lined up 2 rows of 11 helmets. How many helmets in all? = 22 (P) · There were 20 helmets. 11 were used up. How many helmets are left? = 9 (E) · Equipment manager lined up 4 rows of 11 baseballs. How many baseballs in all? = 44 (A)

Clue 5 (Division facts (1-12)): surviving statement is box 8 → Gerrit Cole

18 ÷ 2 = 9 · 6 ÷ 2 = 3 · 42 ÷ 6 = 7 · 20 ÷ 5 = 4 · 120 ÷ 10 = 12 · 22 ÷ 2 = 11 · 5 ÷ 5 = 1 · 18 ÷ 9 = 2 · 54 ÷ 9 = 6 · 60 ÷ 6 = 10 · 15 ÷ 3 = 5