



The Great Softball Heist

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

Detective: _____ **Date:** _____

Oh no! The shiny Golden Softball Trophy has vanished from the main trophy case right before the championship game! A sneaky thief swiped it. We must look at the clues, solve the math, and find the culprit before the final strike is called!

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 the Fastpitch Bandit 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	LUCKY GEAR	BATTING STANCE	HELMET HAIR	PITCHING WEAKNESS
Homeplate Hannah	screwball	weighted bat	lefty stance	braids	inside pitches
Jocelyn Alo	screwball	grip spray	righty stance	braids	inside pitches
Monica Abbott	riseball	weighted bat	lefty stance	braids	inside pitches
Alisa Gomez	riseball	neon visor	lefty stance	ponytail	low pitches
Haylie McCleney	riseball	weighted bat	lefty stance	braids	low pitches
Umpire Abby	curveball	weighted bat	righty stance	braids	low pitches
Outfield Olive	screwball	weighted bat	righty stance	pigtails	low pitches
Fastpitch Fiona	changeup	weighted bat	lefty stance	braids	inside pitches
Cat Osterman	dropball	sparkly cleats	lefty stance	pigtails	high fastballs
Pitcher Paige	dropball	neon visor	lefty stance	pigtails	low pitches
Coach Bailey	riseball	neon visor	righty stance	pigtails	inside pitches
Jennie Finch	screwball	weighted bat	lefty stance	pigtails	low pitches
Shortstop Sam	riseball	sparkly cleats	righty stance	ponytail	low pitches
Glove Gabby	screwball	neon visor	lefty stance	ponytail	inside pitches
Batter Brooke	riseball	lucky glove	righty stance	pigtails	low pitches
Catcher Chloe	changeup	grip spray	righty stance	pigtails	low pitches
Keilani Ricketts	curveball	sparkly cleats	righty stance	braids	high fastballs
Firstbase Faye	changeup	lucky glove	righty stance	braids	low pitches
Slugger Sue	curveball	neon visor	lefty stance	pigtails	low pitches
Dugout Daisy	curveball	sparkly cleats	lefty stance	braids	inside pitches
Secondbase Sally	dropball	lucky glove	lefty stance	braids	inside pitches

CLUE 1 Addition

The umpire counted the extra softballs in the equipment bag. Adding the green balls to the yellow balls gave us a clue about the thief's gear.

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

2999 8034 7703 5318 8032 9675 5937 8169 2999 5937 4205 7703 7860 9675 4205 2999 4932 7860 7703

8032 8917 4932 6722 5684 7092 8088 8917 4205 4700 7703

$$1128 + 1871 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\mathbf{T}}$$

$$2442 + 5592 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{H}}$$

$$2107 + 3830 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{D}}$$

$$5662 + 3255 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{L}}$$

$$6755 + 2920 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{N}}$$

$2994 + 2690 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \mathbf{K}$

$$1645 + 2560 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{0}$$

$$2911 + 1789 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \mathbf{V}$$

$$2519 + 4573 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \mathbf{Y}$$

$$3351 + 3371 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{C}}$$

$$4171 + 3998 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{}$$

$$2644 + 5216 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{S}}$$

$$4654 + 3378 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \mathbf{A}$$

$$3422 + 1896 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{B}}$$

$$3489 + 4214 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \mathbf{E}$$

$$1549 + 3383 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{U}}$$

$2767 + 5321 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \mathbf{G}$

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Rounding

The radar gun behind home plate got hit by a wild pitch and now it only shows rounded speeds. We rounded the pitch speed to the nearest ten to find a clue about the thief's batting style.

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

T 3000	230	170	T 3000	230	130	170	20	300	T 3000	5000	5000	900	130	1100	T 3000	230	170
2000	170	20	T 3000	430	2300	5000	110										

Round 2,952 to the nearest thousand →

T

Round 17 to the nearest ten →

F

Round 170 to the nearest ten →

E

Round 5,182 to the nearest thousand →

O

Round 1,584 to the nearest thousand →

L

Round 227 to the nearest ten →

H

Round 2,304 to the nearest hundred →

B

Round 434 to the nearest ten →

Y

Round 1,125 to the nearest hundred →

N

Round 127 to the nearest ten →

I

Round 944 to the nearest hundred →

D

Round 113 to the nearest ten →

X

Round 298 to the nearest hundred →

S

Scratch space:

CLUE 3
Subtraction

The concession stand started with a big crate of sports drinks. Subtracting the bottles sold during the third inning revealed a clue about the thief's batting weakness.

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

T																			
7536	4753	5796	6252	4006	6252	6625	5796	6495	7536	6252	7536	5587	4006	3235	3235	5936	5796	1458	

3475	8852	7536	4753	8852	5435	6252	8852	1458	5796	6625	8852	7536	6495	4753	5796	6252			

$10848 - 3312 = \square \rightarrow \text{[T]}$

$8926 - 3339 = \square \rightarrow \text{[R]}$

$6818 - 323 = \square \rightarrow \text{[C]}$

$5469 - 1994 = \square \rightarrow \text{[W]}$

$9638 - 786 = \square \rightarrow \text{[I]}$

$7100 - 2347 = \square \rightarrow \text{[H]}$

$5963 - 2728 = \square \rightarrow \text{[G]}$

$6503 - 251 = \square \rightarrow \text{[S]}$

$7897 - 3891 = \square \rightarrow \text{[U]}$

$5529 - 4071 = \square \rightarrow \text{[D]}$

$8518 - 2722 = \square \rightarrow \text{[E]}$

$8382 - 1757 = \square \rightarrow \text{[P]}$

$9140 - 3705 = \square \rightarrow \text{[N]}$

$9791 - 3855 = \square \rightarrow \text{[L]}$

Scratch space:

CLUE 4
Multiplication facts (1-12)

The groundskeeper looked at the rows of bleachers. Multiplying the number of rows by the seats in each row led us to a clue about the thief's hair.

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

W															
55	15	14	1	11	30	32	21	64	21	100	8	14	8	1	56
70	1	56	15	77	8	21	100	32	70						

$11 \times 5 = \square \rightarrow \mathbf{W}$	$1 \times 1 = \square \rightarrow \mathbf{O}$	$10 \times 7 = \square \rightarrow \mathbf{S}$	
$6 \times 5 = \square \rightarrow \mathbf{N}$	$11 \times 1 = \square \rightarrow \mathbf{U}$	$7 \times 8 = \square \rightarrow \mathbf{M}$	$7 \times 3 = \square \rightarrow \mathbf{A}$
$7 \times 11 = \square \rightarrow \mathbf{B}$	$10 \times 10 = \square \rightarrow \mathbf{I}$	$7 \times 2 = \square \rightarrow \mathbf{F}$	
$5 \times 3 = \square \rightarrow \mathbf{E}$	$8 \times 1 = \square \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$	$8 \times 8 = \square \rightarrow \mathbf{H}$	$8 \times 4 = \square \rightarrow \mathbf{D}$

Scratch space:

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

The team shared a big box of orange slices after the game. Dividing the slices equally among all the players left us with a clue about the thief's signature pitch.

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:

$18 \div 9 = \boxed{}$

$3 \div 3 = \boxed{}$

$11 \div 1 = \boxed{}$

$108 \div 12 = \boxed{}$

$56 \div 8 = \boxed{}$

$72 \div 6 = \boxed{}$

$12 \div 3 = \boxed{}$

$10 \div 1 = \boxed{}$

$15 \div 5 = \boxed{}$

$18 \div 3 = \boxed{}$

$40 \div 5 = \boxed{}$

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain snaps a sharp curveball, then runs in sparkly cleats.
2. The villain throws a blistering riseball, then swings a weighted bat.
3. The villain hurls a sinking dropball, then runs in sparkly cleats.
4. The villain tosses a tricky changeup, then squeezes a lucky glove.
5. The villain slings a spinning screwball, then swings a weighted bat.
6. The villain throws a blistering riseball, then adjusts a neon visor.
7. The villain tosses a tricky changeup, then runs in sparkly cleats.
8. The villain snaps a sharp curveball, then adjusts a neon visor.
9. The villain hurls a sinking dropball, then squeezes a lucky glove.
10. The villain slings a spinning screwball, then runs in sparkly cleats.
11. The villain tosses a tricky changeup, then swings a weighted bat.
12. The villain snaps a sharp curveball, then swings a weighted bat.

Answer Key

The Great Softball Heist

Culprit: Homeplate Hannah

screwball · weighted bat · lefty stance · braids · inside pitches

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 18 → Clue 2 11 → Clue 3 5 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Addition): "THE BANDIT DOES NOT USE A LUCKY GLOVE"

$1128 + 1871 = 2999$ (T) · $2442 + 5592 = 8034$ (H) · $2107 + 3830 = 5937$ (D) · $5662 + 3255 = 8917$ (L) · $6755 + 2920 = 9675$ (N) · $2994 + 2690 = 5684$ (K) · $1645 + 2560 = 4205$ (O) · $2911 + 1789 = 4700$ (V) · $2519 + 4573 = 7092$ (Y) · $3351 + 3371 = 6722$ (C) · $4171 + 3998 = 8169$ (I) · $2644 + 5216 = 7860$ (S) · $4654 + 3378 = 8032$ (A) · $3422 + 1896 = 5318$ (B) · $3489 + 4214 = 7703$ (E) · $1549 + 3383 = 4932$ (U) · $2767 + 5321 = 8088$ (G)

Clue 2 (Rounding): "THE THIEF STOOD IN THE LEFTY BOX"

Round 2,952 to the nearest thousand = 3000 (T) · Round 17 to the nearest ten = 20 (F) · Round 170 to the nearest ten = 170 (E) · Round 5,182 to the nearest thousand = 5000 (O) · Round 1,584 to the nearest thousand = 2000 (L) · Round 227 to the nearest ten = 230 (H) · Round 2,304 to the nearest hundred = 2300 (B) · Round 434 to the nearest ten = 430 (Y) · Round 1,125 to the nearest hundred = 1100 (N) · Round 127 to the nearest ten = 130 (I) · Round 944 to the nearest hundred = 900 (D) · Round 113 to the nearest ten = 110 (X) · Round 298 to the nearest hundred = 300 (S)

Clue 3 (Subtraction): "THE SUSPECT STRUGGLED WITH INSIDE PITCHES"

$10848 - 3312 = 7536$ (T) · $8926 - 3339 = 5587$ (R) · $6818 - 323 = 6495$ (C) · $5469 - 1994 = 3475$ (W) · $9638 - 786 = 8852$ (I) · $7100 - 2347 = 4753$ (H) · $5963 - 2728 = 3235$ (G) · $6503 - 251 = 6252$ (S) · $7897 - 3891 = 4006$ (U) · $5529 - 4071 = 1458$ (D) · $8518 - 2722 = 5796$ (E) · $8382 - 1757 = 6625$ (P) · $9140 - 3705 = 5435$ (N) · $9791 - 3855 = 5936$ (L)

Clue 4 (Multiplication facts (1-12)): "WE FOUND A HAIR FROM SOME BRAIDS"

$11 \times 5 = 55$ (W) · $1 \times 1 = 1$ (O) · $10 \times 7 = 70$ (S) · $6 \times 5 = 30$ (N) · $11 \times 1 = 11$ (U) · $7 \times 8 = 56$ (M) · $7 \times 3 = 21$ (A) · $7 \times 11 = 77$ (B) · $10 \times 10 = 100$ (I) · $7 \times 2 = 14$ (F) · $5 \times 3 = 15$ (E) · $8 \times 1 = 8$ (R) · $8 \times 8 = 64$ (H) · $8 \times 4 = 32$ (D)

Clue 5 (Division facts (1-12)): surviving statement is box 5 → Homeplate Hannah

$18 \div 9 = 2$ · $3 \div 3 = 1$ · $11 \div 1 = 11$ · $108 \div 12 = 9$ · $56 \div 8 = 7$ · $72 \div 6 = 12$ · $12 \div 3 = 4$ · $10 \div 1 = 10$ · $15 \div 5 = 3$ · $18 \div 3 = 6$ · $40 \div 5 = 8$