



The Midnight Pumpkin Mystery

Grade 5 math · Addition, Subtraction, Word problems, Rounding, Division · Reading level grades 3-4

Detective: _____ Date: _____

Someone stole the Mayor giant prize pumpkin right before the midnight Halloween festival. Solve the math clues to uncover who did 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 Pumpkin Thief is _____

Possible suspects

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

NAME	TRICK	DISGUISE	WAND HAND	WIG COLOR	FAVORITE TREAT
Piper Pumpkin	Spider Web	Zombie Boots	Right Handed Wand	Neon Orange Wig	Sour Apple Candy
Sammy Skeleton	Glow Beam	Ghost Cape	Left Handed Wand	Slime Green Wig	Chocolate Bats
Rory Raven	Glow Beam	Ghost Cape	Right Handed Wand	Slime Green Wig	Sour Apple Candy
Fiona Fog	Spider Web	Ghost Cape	Right Handed Wand	Midnight Purple Wig	Gummy Worms
Wolfie Fang	Spider Web	Skeleton Mask	Left Handed Wand	Midnight Purple Wig	Sour Apple Candy
Bram Stoker	Fog Blast	Ghost Cape	Right Handed Wand	Slime Green Wig	Sour Apple Candy
Otto Owl	Spider Web	Skeleton Mask	Left Handed Wand	Midnight Purple Wig	Chocolate Bats
Mindy Mummy	Shadow Jump	Zombie Boots	Left Handed Wand	Neon Orange Wig	Sour Apple Candy
Casper Stone	Shadow Jump	Goblin Suit	Left Handed Wand	Slime Green Wig	Chocolate Bats
Morticia Night	Bat Swarm	Witch Hat	Left Handed Wand	Midnight Purple Wig	Chocolate Bats
Gomez Spark	Glow Beam	Goblin Suit	Left Handed Wand	Midnight Purple Wig	Chocolate Bats
Frankie Stein	Glow Beam	Zombie Boots	Left Handed Wand	Slime Green Wig	Sour Apple Candy
Xander Spell	Spider Web	Ghost Cape	Right Handed Wand	Midnight Purple Wig	Sour Apple Candy
Vera Vamp	Bat Swarm	Skeleton Mask	Right Handed Wand	Slime Green Wig	Sour Apple Candy
Wednesday Dark	Shadow Jump	Zombie Boots	Right Handed Wand	Midnight Purple Wig	Gummy Worms
Gwen Ghost	Bat Swarm	Ghost Cape	Left Handed Wand	Slime Green Wig	Sour Apple Candy
Jack Lantern	Fog Blast	Ghost Cape	Right Handed Wand	Neon Orange Wig	Sour Apple Candy
Zane Zombie	Glow Beam	Goblin Suit	Right Handed Wand	Slime Green Wig	Sour Apple Candy
Draco Moon	Shadow Jump	Zombie Boots	Right Handed Wand	Slime Green Wig	Gummy Worms
Bruno Bat	Spider Web	Skeleton Mask	Right Handed Wand	Neon Orange Wig	Gummy Worms
Toby Treat	Spider Web	Ghost Cape	Right Handed Wand	Slime Green Wig	Sour Apple Candy

CLUE 1 Addition

You tally up all the glowing jack-o-lanterns along the path to solve this puzzle.

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

7946 6700 5324 6911 7537 4939 4939 6175 7537 9072 9400 9877 5324 8559 9072 9877 7946

9449 5324 6175 7638 6175 8559 4760 5324 4939 5324 7946 9877 9072 2024 6175 8559 4760

$1737 + 3202 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \mathbf{L}$

$$1897 + 3427 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{E}}$$

$$2594 + 2166 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{K}}$$

$$2130 + 4045 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \mathbf{A}$$

$$5552 + 3520 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{N}}$$

Scratch space:

CLUE 2

Subtraction

You calculate how many ghost tokens are missing from the potion station.

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

W									W					
5860	4694	3374	8428	3418	3835	3835	3835	3824	5860	6441	4694	1304	2543	3374
							W							
2543	3824	8428	7816	3418	7816	5860	3824	8428	7816	2913	3835	3824	1304	3418

$7713 - 1853 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{W}}$

$4176 - 1263 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{U}}$

$3957 - 539 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{E}}$

$8308 - 492 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{D}}$

$11386 - 4945 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{R}}$

$5120 - 2577 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{H}}$

$3509 - 135 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{T}}$

$3869 - 34 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{S}}$

$11702 - 3274 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{N}}$

$8303 - 3609 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{I}}$

$4989 - 1165 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{A}}$

$4996 - 3692 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{G}}$

Scratch space:

CLUE 3

Word problems

The head baker shares story problems about baking pumpkin pies for clues.

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

Someone scared the villain off with

S E C N D Y .
 58 100 92 79 68 74 74 51 68

Pumpkin Baker found 10 caramel apples yesterday and 48 more today. How many caramel apples in all?

Answer: → S

There were 92 glow sticks. 18 were used up. How many glow sticks are left?

Answer: → P

There were 121 caramel apples. 21 were used up. How many caramel apples are left?

Answer: → O

There were 102 spider rings. 34 were used up. How many spider rings are left?

Answer: → A

Pumpkin Baker found 32 glow sticks yesterday and 19 more today. How many glow sticks in all?

Answer: → L

Pumpkin Baker found 65 spider rings yesterday and 27 more today. How many spider rings in all?

Answer: → U

Pumpkin Baker found 55 candy corn pieces yesterday and 24 more today. How many candy corn pieces in all?

Answer: → R

Scratch space:

CLUE 4

Rounding

The spellometer scanner rounds off spooky magic ratings to decode the next clue.

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

S									S													
2000	70	3700	900	3700	700	2300	9000	2000	110	1100	20	3700	500	4300	3700	3700	900					
370	1100	500	2000	430	4300	2300	900	9000	2000													

Round 1,546 to the nearest thousand → **S**

Round 2,281 to the nearest hundred → **A**

Round 1,122 to the nearest hundred → **I**

Round 4,324 to the nearest hundred → **R**

Round 371 to the nearest ten → **W**

Round 17 to the nearest ten → **M**

Round 914 to the nearest hundred → **N**

Round 685 to the nearest hundred → **H**

Round 430 to the nearest ten → **T**

Round 543 to the nearest hundred → **G**

Round 112 to the nearest ten → **L**

Round 70 to the nearest ten → **C**

Round 3,670 to the nearest hundred → **E**

Round 8,846 to the nearest thousand → **D**

Scratch space:

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

You divide the bag of candy apples evenly among suspects to reveal a 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:

$56 \div 7 = \boxed{}$

$3 \div 3 = \boxed{}$

$18 \div 3 = \boxed{}$

$70 \div 10 = \boxed{}$

$20 \div 2 = \boxed{}$

$32 \div 8 = \boxed{}$

$11 \div 1 = \boxed{}$

$144 \div 12 = \boxed{}$

$45 \div 9 = \boxed{}$

$4 \div 2 = \boxed{}$

$27 \div 9 = \boxed{}$

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain shined a bright glow beam, then vanished into a ghost cape.
2. The villain shined a bright glow beam, then tipped a tall witch hat.
3. The villain shined a bright glow beam, then clomped away in zombie boots.
4. The villain created a blast of thick fog, then tipped a tall witch hat.
5. The villain created a blast of thick fog, then pulled on a creepy skeleton mask.
6. The villain shot a web of spider silk, then vanished into a ghost cape.
7. The villain shot a web of spider silk, then tipped a tall witch hat.
8. The villain shined a bright glow beam, then zipped up a goblin suit.
9. The villain created a blast of thick fog, then vanished into a ghost cape.
10. The villain summoned a swarm of bats, then clomped away in zombie boots.
11. The villain created a blast of thick fog, then clomped away in zombie boots.
12. The villain jumped through deep shadows, then vanished into a ghost cape.

Answer Key

The Midnight Pumpkin Mystery

Culprit: Bram Stoker

Fog Blast · Ghost Cape · Right Handed Wand · Slime Green Wig · Sour Apple Candy

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 17 → Clue 2 10 → Clue 3 7 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Addition): "THE VILLAIN DOES NOT WEAR A SKELETON MASK"

$3898 + 4048 = 7946$ (T) · $4180 + 2731 = 6911$ (V) · $1737 + 3202 = 4939$ (L) · $5376 + 4501 = 9877$ (O) · $4297 + 2403 = 6700$ (H) · $1897 + 3427 = 5324$ (E) · $4370 + 3268 = 7638$ (R) · $612 + 1412 = 2024$ (M) · $2594 + 2166 = 4760$ (K) · $4656 + 4793 = 9449$ (W) · $3160 + 6240 = 9400$ (D) · $2130 + 4045 = 6175$ (A) · $4414 + 4145 = 8559$ (S) · $2717 + 4820 = 7537$ (I) · $5552 + 3520 = 9072$ (N)

Clue 2 (Subtraction): "WITNESS SAW RIGHT HANDED WAND USAGE"

$7713 - 1853 = 5860$ (W) · $4176 - 1263 = 2913$ (U) · $3957 - 539 = 3418$ (E) · $8308 - 492 = 7816$ (D) · $11386 - 4945 = 6441$ (R) · $5120 - 2577 = 2543$ (H) · $3509 - 135 = 3374$ (T) · $3869 - 34 = 3835$ (S) · $11702 - 3274 = 8428$ (N) · $8303 - 3609 = 4694$ (I) · $4989 - 1165 = 3824$ (A) · $4996 - 3692 = 1304$ (G)

Clue 3 (Word problems): "SOUR APPLE CANDY"

Pumpkin Baker found 10 caramel apples yesterday and 48 more today. How many caramel apples in all? = 58 (S) · There were 92 glow sticks. 18 were used up. How many glow sticks are left? = 74 (P) · There were 121 caramel apples. 21 were used up. How many caramel apples are left? = 100 (O) · There were 102 spider rings. 34 were used up. How many spider rings are left? = 68 (A) · Pumpkin Baker found 32 glow sticks yesterday and 19 more today. How many glow sticks in all? = 51 (L) · Pumpkin Baker found 65 spider rings yesterday and 27 more today. How many spider rings in all? = 92 (U) · Pumpkin Baker found 55 candy corn pieces yesterday and 24 more today. How many candy corn pieces in all? = 79 (R)

Clue 4 (Rounding): "SCENE HAD SLIME GREEN WIG STRANDS"

Round 1,546 to the nearest thousand = 2000 (S) · Round 2,281 to the nearest hundred = 2300 (A) · Round 1,122 to the nearest hundred = 1100 (I) · Round 4,324 to the nearest hundred = 4300 (R) · Round 371 to the nearest ten = 370 (W) · Round 17 to the nearest ten = 20 (M) · Round 914 to the nearest hundred = 900 (N) · Round 685 to the nearest hundred = 700 (H) · Round 430 to the nearest ten = 430 (T) · Round 543 to the nearest hundred = 500 (G) · Round 112 to the nearest ten = 110 (L) · Round 70 to the nearest ten = 70 (C) · Round 3,670 to the nearest hundred = 3700 (E) · Round 8,846 to the nearest thousand = 9000 (D)

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

$56 \div 7 = 8$ · $3 \div 3 = 1$ · $18 \div 3 = 6$ · $70 \div 10 = 7$ · $20 \div 2 = 10$ · $32 \div 8 = 4$ · $11 \div 1 = 11$ · $144 \div 12 = 12$ · $45 \div 9 = 5$ · $4 \div 2 = 2$ · $27 \div 9 = 3$