



The Mystery of the Golden Anchor

Grade 6 math · Place value, Rounding, Addition, Subtraction, Division · Reading level grades 5-6

Detective: _____ **Date:** _____

The legendary Golden Anchor has been snatched right out of the Scurvy Sands safe! The harbor is in an uproar, and we need your detective skills to find the culprit.

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 pirate raider is _____

Possible suspects

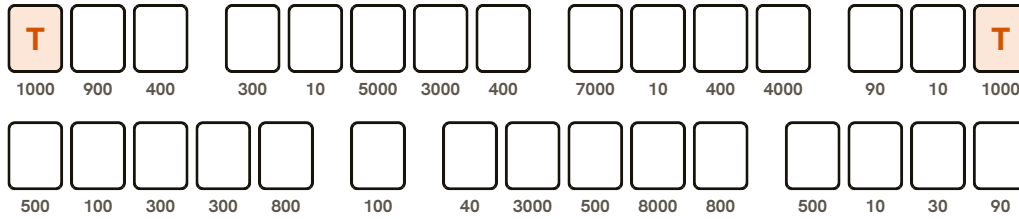
Cross off a row as each clue rules it out. The one left at the end is the culprit.

NAME	PRIMARY PIRATE SKILL	SIGNATURE GEAR	EYE PATCH PLACEMENT	HEADWEAR	SECRET WEAKNESS
Bartholomew Roberts	cannon gunner	silver key	patch on left eye	green headscarf	ticklish feet
Howell Davis	rigging climber	golden compass	patch on right eye	red bandana	allergic to citrus
Thomas Tew	rigging climber	spyglass	patch on right eye	blue tricorn	scared of monkeys
Charles Vane	map navigator	spyglass	patch on right eye	blue tricorn	scared of monkeys
Jean Lafitte	map navigator	spyglass	patch on right eye	green headscarf	ticklish feet
Anne Bonny	cannon gunner	spyglass	patch on right eye	green headscarf	ticklish feet
Samuel Bellamy	rigging climber	silver key	patch on left eye	green headscarf	ticklish feet
Grace O Malley	rigging climber	spyglass	patch on right eye	green headscarf	allergic to citrus
Henry Morgan	map navigator	golden compass	patch on right eye	green headscarf	allergic to citrus
Francois l Olonnais	sails master	spyglass	patch on left eye	red bandana	scared of monkeys
Sadie the Goat	sails master	pocket watch	patch on right eye	blue tricorn	ticklish feet
Edward England	cannon gunner	pocket watch	patch on right eye	red bandana	ticklish feet
Stede Bonnet	map navigator	lucky coin	patch on left eye	green headscarf	ticklish feet
Ching Shih	cannon gunner	pocket watch	patch on right eye	green headscarf	allergic to citrus
Cheung Po Tsai	sails master	pocket watch	patch on left eye	blue tricorn	ticklish feet
Blackbeard	sails master	spyglass	patch on left eye	green headscarf	ticklish feet
William Kidd	map navigator	golden compass	patch on left eye	green headscarf	ticklish feet
Captain Hook	sails master	spyglass	patch on right eye	red bandana	scared of monkeys
Mary Read	cannon gunner	lucky coin	patch on right eye	red bandana	allergic to citrus
Edward Low	sails master	silver key	patch on left eye	green headscarf	allergic to citrus
John Silver	map navigator	silver key	patch on right eye	blue tricorn	scared of monkeys

CLUE 1 Place value

A torn chart lists the cargo counts. To read the secret code, you must find the digit in the hundreds place of the pirate fleet total.

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



What is the value of the 1 in 61,930? → **T**

What is the value of the 9 in 13,922? → **H**

What is the value of the 5 in 39,549? → **C**

What is the value of the 3 in 27,132? → **I**

What is the value of the 8 in 557,830? → **Y**

What is the value of the 7 in 347,618? → **D**

What is the value of the 3 in 63,200? → **U**

What is the value of the 1 in 27,415? → **O**

What is the value of the 9 in 174,398? → **N**

What is the value of the 4 in 84,036? → **S**

What is the value of the 4 in 109,409? → **E**

What is the value of the 3 in 512,392? → **R**

What is the value of the 4 in 317,641? → **L**

What is the value of the 8 in 58,726? → **K**

What is the value of the 1 in 28,176? → **A**

What is the value of the 5 in 75,196? → **G**

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Rounding

The lookouts recorded the distance of the fleeing ship, but they could only read the blurry spyglass by rounding to the nearest ten.

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

T								T											
200	7000	3700	70	5000	2300	430	200	70	50	370	50	230	50	200	5000	7000	2300	30	
T							T												
200	7000	3700	500	3700	90	200	3700	2000	3700										

Round 155 to the nearest hundred → **T**

Round 46 to the nearest ten → **A**

Round 372 to the nearest ten → **W**

Round 71 to the nearest ten → **S**

Round 5,090 to the nearest thousand → **C**

Round 234 to the nearest ten → **P**

Round 1,543 to the nearest thousand → **Y**

Round 27 to the nearest ten → **N**

Round 430 to the nearest ten → **U**

Round 3,692 to the nearest hundred → **E**

Round 2,305 to the nearest hundred → **O**

Round 89 to the nearest ten → **F**

Round 6,581 to the nearest thousand → **H**

Round 514 to the nearest hundred → **L**

Scratch space:

CLUE 3 Addition

You search the dock floor and tally up the loose gold doubloons dropped during the escape to calculate the total sum.

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

T			T					T										
4535	3617	9555	4535	2062	4479	8608	9555	4535	5437	9555	4185	5876	9555	8382	6359	3617	9555	3417
				T				T							T			
2062	4832	9555	2062	4535	3617	9555	4479	4535	6458	7208	9773	4185	9555	8382	4535	3617	9555	4327

$2067 + 2468 = \square \rightarrow$ T	$2825 + 2612 = \square \rightarrow$ Y	$4718 + 3664 = \square \rightarrow$ D
$2011 + 1406 = \square \rightarrow$ N	$5608 + 3000 = \square \rightarrow$ G	$2175 + 2010 = \square \rightarrow$ L
$2512 + 1967 = \square \rightarrow$ R	$2359 + 1258 = \square \rightarrow$ H	$2855 + 1472 = \square \rightarrow$ M
$1989 + 2843 = \square \rightarrow$ F	$3948 + 2411 = \square \rightarrow$ W	$2973 + 4235 = \square \rightarrow$ C
$3804 + 5751 = \square \rightarrow$ E	$6686 + 3087 = \square \rightarrow$ K	$778 + 1284 = \square \rightarrow$ A
$2170 + 3706 = \square \rightarrow$ P	$3907 + 2551 = \square \rightarrow$ I	

Scratch space:

CLUE 4

Subtraction

The thief threw heavy cargo overboard to speed up their getaway. Compare the starting weight with the new weight to find the difference.

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

A								A				A							
4525	8554	2499	4312	4312	5320	7947	4312	4525	8111	6495	4181	4525	2499	6518	7028	4312	6518	3801	

A									
4525	6495	2888	7028	5577	6495	3801	2499	2888	1481

$6857 - 2332 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{A}}$

$6290 - 970 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{N}}$

$8842 - 2347 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{S}}$

$5438 - 2550 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{I}}$

$10634 - 2523 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{D}}$

$11405 - 4887 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{F}}$

$6457 - 2656 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{T}}$

$8535 - 1507 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{L}}$

$11854 - 3907 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{H}}$

$3052 - 553 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{R}}$

$3028 - 1547 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{P}}$

$7233 - 2921 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{E}}$

$7507 - 3326 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{C}}$

$6660 - 1083 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{K}}$

$9229 - 675 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{G}}$

Scratch space:

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

The getaway crew split up their stolen silver coins equally. Find how many coins each pirate received after the division.

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:

$36 \div 6 = \boxed{}$

$20 \div 2 = \boxed{}$

$9 \div 3 = \boxed{}$

$7 \div 1 = \boxed{}$

$63 \div 7 = \boxed{}$

$10 \div 2 = \boxed{}$

$110 \div 10 = \boxed{}$

$8 \div 8 = \boxed{}$

$24 \div 6 = \boxed{}$

$80 \div 10 = \boxed{}$

$16 \div 8 = \boxed{}$

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain swung across the rigging, then stuffed the treasure into a sack.
2. The villain swung across the rigging, then snatched the velvet bag.
3. The villain slid down the main mast, then fled into the thick fog.
4. The villain clambered over the wooden dock, then snatched the velvet bag.
5. The villain sneaked through the lower deck, then stuffed the treasure into a sack.
6. The villain swung across the rigging, then fled into the thick fog.
7. The villain slid down the main mast, then snatched the velvet bag.
8. The villain sneaked through the lower deck, then pried open the floorboards.
9. The villain swung across the rigging, then unlocked the secure chest.
10. The villain steered the rowboat silently, then pried open the floorboards.
11. The villain sneaked through the lower deck, then fled into the thick fog.
12. The villain sneaked through the lower deck, then unlocked the secure chest.

Answer Key

The Mystery of the Golden Anchor

Culprit: Blackbeard

sails master · spyglass · patch on left eye · green headscarf · ticklish feet

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 19 → Clue 2 7 → Clue 3 5 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Place value): "THE ROGUE DOES NOT CARRY A LUCKY COIN"

What is the value of the 1 in 61,930? = 1000 (T) · What is the value of the 9 in 13,922? = 900 (H) · What is the value of the 5 in 39,549? = 500 (C) · What is the value of the 3 in 27,132? = 30 (I) · What is the value of the 8 in 557,830? = 800 (Y) · What is the value of the 7 in 347,618? = 7000 (D) · What is the value of the 3 in 63,200? = 3000 (U) · What is the value of the 1 in 27,415? = 10 (O) · What is the value of the 9 in 174,398? = 90 (N) · What is the value of the 4 in 84,036? = 4000 (S) · What is the value of the 4 in 109,409? = 400 (E) · What is the value of the 3 in 512,392? = 300 (R) · What is the value of the 4 in 317,641? = 40 (L) · What is the value of the 8 in 58,726? = 8000 (K) · What is the value of the 1 in 28,176? = 100 (A) · What is the value of the 5 in 75,196? = 5000 (G)

Clue 2 (Rounding): "THE SCOUT SAW A PATCH ON THE LEFT EYE"

Round 155 to the nearest hundred = 200 (T) · Round 46 to the nearest ten = 50 (A) · Round 372 to the nearest ten = 370 (W) · Round 71 to the nearest ten = 70 (S) · Round 5,090 to the nearest thousand = 5000 (C) · Round 234 to the nearest ten = 230 (P) · Round 1,543 to the nearest thousand = 2000 (Y) · Round 27 to the nearest ten = 30 (N) · Round 430 to the nearest ten = 430 (U) · Round 3,692 to the nearest hundred = 3700 (E) · Round 2,305 to the nearest hundred = 2300 (O) · Round 89 to the nearest ten = 90 (F) · Round 6,581 to the nearest thousand = 7000 (H) · Round 514 to the nearest hundred = 500 (L)

Clue 3 (Addition): "THE TARGET YELPED WHEN A FEATHER TICKLED THEM"

2067 + 2468 = 4535 (T) · 2825 + 2612 = 5437 (Y) · 4718 + 3664 = 8382 (D) · 2011 + 1406 = 3417 (N) · 5608 + 3000 = 8608 (G) · 2175 + 2010 = 4185 (L) · 2512 + 1967 = 4479 (R) · 2359 + 1258 = 3617 (H) · 2855 + 1472 = 4327 (M) · 1989 + 2843 = 4832 (F) · 3948 + 2411 = 6359 (W) · 2973 + 4235 = 7208 (C) · 3804 + 5751 = 9555 (E) · 6686 + 3087 = 9773 (K) · 778 + 1284 = 2062 (A) · 2170 + 3706 = 5876 (P) · 3907 + 2551 = 6458 (I)

Clue 4 (Subtraction): "A GREEN HEADSCARF LEFT A SILK STRIP"

6857 - 2332 = 4525 (A) · 6290 - 970 = 5320 (N) · 8842 - 2347 = 6495 (S) · 5438 - 2550 = 2888 (I) · 10634 - 2523 = 8111 (D) · 11405 - 4887 = 6518 (F) · 6457 - 2656 = 3801 (T) · 8535 - 1507 = 7028 (L) · 11854 - 3907 = 7947 (H) · 3052 - 553 = 2499 (R) · 3028 - 1547 = 1481 (P) · 7233 - 2921 = 4312 (E) · 7507 - 3326 = 4181 (C) · 6660 - 1083 = 5577 (K) · 9229 - 675 = 8554 (G)

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

$36 \div 6 = 6$ · $20 \div 2 = 10$ · $9 \div 3 = 3$ · $7 \div 1 = 7$ · $63 \div 7 = 9$ · $10 \div 2 = 5$ · $110 \div 10 = 11$ · $8 \div 8 = 1$ · $24 \div 6 = 4$ · $80 \div 10 = 8$ · $16 \div 8 = 2$