The Mystery of the Missing Gold Football

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

Detective: _____ **Date:** _____

The night before the big championship game, someone sneaked into Titan Stadium and snatched the Gold Football trophy! Solve the math clues to figure out who took 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 stadium sneaky bandit is _____

Possible suspects

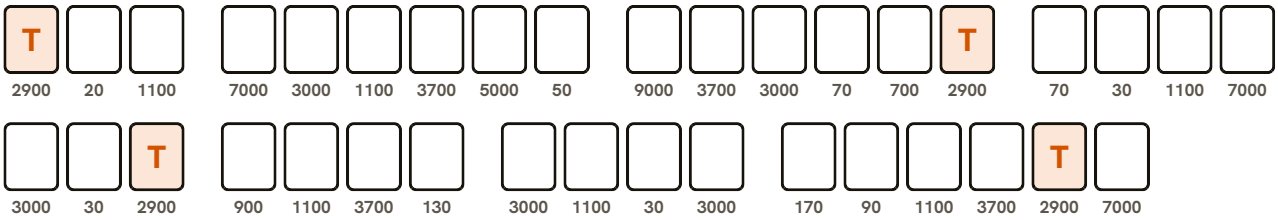
Cross off a row as each clue rules it out. The one left at the end is the culprit.

NAME	SIGNATURE MOVE	LUCKY CHARM	STANCE	HELMET STRIPE	DEFENSIVE COUNTER
Joe Burrow	Speedy Blitz	Lucky Coin	Left Handed	Green Stripe	Zone Coverage
Tyreek Hill	Field Goal Kick	Golden Towel	Left Handed	Orange Stripe	Zone Coverage
Sauce Gardner	Power Tackle	Foam Finger	Left Handed	Orange Stripe	Wet Grass
Josh Allen	Hail Mary Pass	Foam Finger	Right Handed	Orange Stripe	Wet Grass
Nick Bosa	Power Tackle	Neon Cleats	Right Handed	Green Stripe	Wet Grass
Justin Herbert	Field Goal Kick	Golden Towel	Right Handed	Orange Stripe	Zone Coverage
Travis Kelce	Field Goal Kick	Lucky Coin	Left Handed	Blue Stripe	Zone Coverage
Justin Jefferson	Hail Mary Pass	Neon Cleats	Left Handed	Blue Stripe	Loud Whistle
Deebo Samuel	Field Goal Kick	Lucky Coin	Left Handed	Green Stripe	Wet Grass
Patrick Mahomes	Field Goal Kick	Lucky Coin	Left Handed	Orange Stripe	Loud Whistle
TJ Watt	Power Tackle	Foam Finger	Right Handed	Orange Stripe	Wet Grass
CeeDee Lamb	Power Tackle	Silver Whistle	Right Handed	Blue Stripe	Loud Whistle
Derrick Henry	Speedy Blitz	Neon Cleats	Right Handed	Green Stripe	Zone Coverage
Davante Adams	Field Goal Kick	Lucky Coin	Right Handed	Green Stripe	Loud Whistle
Micah Parsons	Spin Move	Foam Finger	Left Handed	Orange Stripe	Zone Coverage
Myles Garrett	Spin Move	Silver Whistle	Left Handed	Orange Stripe	Zone Coverage
JaMarr Chase	Speedy Blitz	Neon Cleats	Left Handed	Orange Stripe	Zone Coverage
Christian McCaffrey	Power Tackle	Foam Finger	Left Handed	Orange Stripe	Zone Coverage
Aaron Donald	Hail Mary Pass	Golden Towel	Left Handed	Green Stripe	Loud Whistle
Lamar Jackson	Hail Mary Pass	Foam Finger	Left Handed	Green Stripe	Wet Grass
Saquon Barkley	Speedy Blitz	Silver Whistle	Right Handed	Orange Stripe	Loud Whistle

CLUE 1 Rounding

> The stadium scoreboard only displays rounded fan attendance numbers to keep the board clear. Round each crowd total to decode the first clue!

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



Round 2,925 to the nearest hundred ☐ → **T**

Round 3,121 to the nearest thousand ☐ → **N**

Round 3,704 to the nearest hundred ☐ → **A**

Round 88 to the nearest ten ☐ → **L**

Round 938 to the nearest hundred ☐ → **W**

Round 74 to the nearest ten ☐ → **D**

Round 34 to the nearest ten ☐ → **O**

Round 16 to the nearest ten ☐ → **H**

Round 4,873 to the nearest thousand ☐ → **K**

Round 52 to the nearest ten ☐ → **Y**

Round 1,065 to the nearest hundred ☐ → **E**

Round 7,355 to the nearest thousand ☐ → **S**

Round 168 to the nearest ten ☐ → **C**

Round 662 to the nearest hundred ☐ → **I**

Round 9,423 to the nearest thousand ☐ → **B**

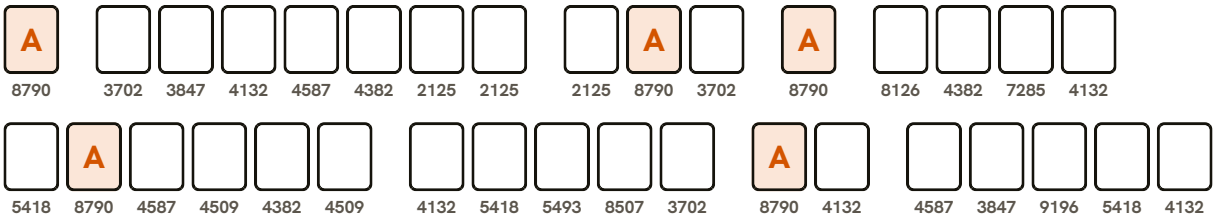
Round 130 to the nearest ten ☐ → **R**

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Addition

> Coach Miller tallied the total practice footballs brought to the field today. Add the gear numbers together to unlock the next lead!

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



5582 + 3208 = ☐ → **A**

2882 + 1627 = ☐ → **D**

1845 + 1857 = ☐ → **W**

650 + 1475 = ☐ → **S**

3386 + 5121 = ☐ → **O**

1900 + 2687 = ☐ → **N**

2274 + 3219 = ☐ → **R**

1471 + 2661 = ☐ → **T**

2693 + 1689 = ☐ → **E**

1748 + 2099 = ☐ → **I**

3126 + 6070 = ☐ → **G**

2303 + 4982 = ☐ → **F**

3358 + 4768 = ☐ → **L**

3066 + 2352 = ☐ → **H**

Scratch space:

CLUE 3 Subtraction

> The equipment manager subtracted lost helmets from the inventory list. Calculate the difference to reveal the witness note!

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



3294 - 1023 = ☐ → **Z**

9017 - 99 = ☐ → **R**

12309 - 4905 = ☐ → **N**

10187 - 4220 = ☐ → **L**

4770 - 1537 = ☐ → **G**

8940 - 4546 = ☐ → **V**

7901 - 1105 = ☐ → **E**

9315 - 3914 = ☐ → **S**

9104 - 4098 = ☐ → **K**

9687 - 3322 = ☐ → **D**

3438 - 1557 = ☐ → **Y**

10765 - 3191 = ☐ → **A**

2895 - 1108 = ☐ → **H**

9751 - 3863 = ☐ → **O**

8408 - 104 = ☐ → **B**

8151 - 3288 = ☐ → **C**

8671 - 1269 = ☐ → **T**

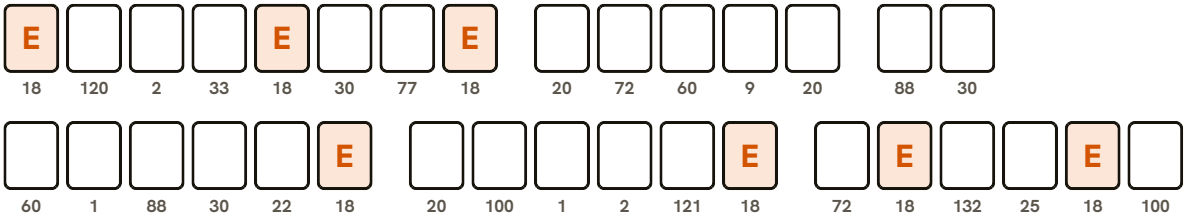
9859 - 4253 = ☐ → **I**

Scratch space:

CLUE 4 Multiplication facts (1-12)

> The band lined up in equal rows across the end zone. Multiply the rows and columns to find the hidden evidence!

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



2 × 9 = ☐ → E

1 × 2 = ☐ → I

12 × 11 = ☐ → L

5 × 5 = ☐ → M

1 × 1 = ☐ → R

11 × 7 = ☐ → C

9 × 1 = ☐ → W

11 × 11 = ☐ → P

10 × 10 = ☐ → T

12 × 5 = ☐ → O

11 × 3 = ☐ → D

8 × 11 = ☐ → A

11 × 2 = ☐ → G

6 × 5 = ☐ → N

5 × 4 = ☐ → S

6 × 12 = ☐ → H

12 × 10 = ☐ → V

Scratch space:

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

> The coach divided snacks equally among the offense teams. Solve the division problems to piece together the final answer!

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:

88 ÷ 8 = ☐ 7 ÷ 7 = ☐ 63 ÷ 9 = ☐ 22 ÷ 11 = ☐ 12 ÷ 4 = ☐

45 ÷ 5 = ☐ 110 ÷ 11 = ☐ 24 ÷ 4 = ☐ 96 ÷ 8 = ☐ 45 ÷ 9 = ☐

64 ÷ 8 = ☐

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain kicked a long field goal kick, then waved a golden towel.
2. The villain stopped the play with a power tackle, then flipped a lucky coin.
3. The villain executed a speedy blitz, then blew a silver whistle.
4. The villain spun past defenders with a spin move, then cheered with a foam finger.
5. The villain launched a high hail mary pass, then waved a golden towel.
6. The villain kicked a long field goal kick, then blew a silver whistle.
7. The villain stopped the play with a power tackle, then cheered with a foam finger.
8. The villain launched a high hail mary pass, then flipped a lucky coin.
9. The villain stopped the play with a power tackle, then laced up neon cleats.
10. The villain executed a speedy blitz, then cheered with a foam finger.
11. The villain spun past defenders with a spin move, then blew a silver whistle.
12. The villain spun past defenders with a spin move, then flipped a lucky coin.

TEACHER / PARENT

Answer Key

The Mystery of the Missing Gold Football

Culprit: Micah Parsons

Spin Move · Foam Finger · Left Handed · Orange Stripe · Zone Coverage

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 17 → Clue 2 11 → Clue 3 6 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Rounding): "THE SNEAKY BANDIT DOES NOT WEAR NEON CLEATS"

Round 2,925 to the nearest hundred = 2900 (T) · Round 3,121 to the nearest thousand = 3000 (N) · Round 3,704 to the nearest hundred = 3700 (A) · Round 88 to the nearest ten = 90 (L) · Round 938 to the nearest hundred = 900 (W) · Round 74 to the nearest ten = 70 (D) · Round 34 to the nearest ten = 30 (O) · Round 16 to the nearest ten = 20 (H) · Round 4,873 to the nearest thousand = 5000 (K) · Round 52 to the nearest ten = 50 (Y) · Round 1,065 to the nearest hundred = 1100 (E) · Round 7,355 to the nearest thousand = 7000 (S) · Round 168 to the nearest ten = 170 (C) · Round 662 to the nearest hundred = 700 (I) · Round 9,423 to the nearest thousand = 9000 (B) · Round 130 to the nearest ten = 130 (R)

Clue 2 (Addition): "A WITNESS SAW A LEFT HANDED THROW AT NIGHT"

5582 + 3208 = 8790 (A) · 2882 + 1627 = 4509 (D) · 1845 + 1857 = 3702 (W) · 650 + 1475 = 2125 (S) · 3386 + 5121 = 8507 (O) · 1900 + 2687 = 4587 (N) · 2274 + 3219 = 5493 (R) · 1471 + 2661 = 4132 (T) · 2693 + 1689 = 4382 (E) · 1748 + 2099 = 3847 (I) · 3126 + 6070 = 9196 (G) · 2303 + 4982 = 7285 (F) · 3358 + 4768 = 8126 (L) · 3066 + 2352 = 5418 (H)

Clue 3 (Subtraction): "ZONE COVERAGE BLOCKED THE SNEAKY BANDIT"

3294 - 1023 = 2271 (Z) · 9017 - 99 = 8918 (R) · 12309 - 4905 = 7404 (N) · 10187 - 4220 = 5967 (L) · 4770 - 1537 = 3233 (G) · 8940 - 4546 = 4394 (V) · 7901 - 1105 = 6796 (E) · 9315 - 3914 = 5401 (S) · 9104 - 4098 = 5006 (K) · 9687 - 3322 = 6365 (D) · 3438 - 1557 = 1881 (Y) · 10765 - 3191 = 7574 (A) · 2895 - 1108 = 1787 (H) · 9751 - 3863 = 5888 (O) · 8408 - 104 = 8304 (B) · 8151 - 3288 = 4863 (C) · 8671 - 1269 = 7402 (T) · 9859 - 4253 = 5606 (I)

Clue 4 (Multiplication facts (1-12)): "EVIDENCE SHOWS AN ORANGE STRIPE HELMET"

2 × 9 = 18 (E) · 1 × 2 = 2 (I) · 12 × 11 = 132 (L) · 5 × 5 = 25 (M) · 1 × 1 = 1 (R) · 11 × 7 = 77 (C) · 9 × 1 = 9 (W) · 11 × 11 = 121 (P) · 10 × 10 = 100 (T) · 12 × 5 = 60 (O) · 11 × 3 = 33 (D) · 8 × 11 = 88 (A) · 11 × 2 = 22 (G) · 6 × 5 = 30 (N) · 5 × 4 = 20 (S) · 6 × 12 = 72 (H) · 12 × 10 = 120 (V)

Clue 5 (Division facts (1-12)): surviving statement is box 4 → Micah Parsons

88 ÷ 8 = 11 · 7 ÷ 7 = 1 · 63 ÷ 9 = 7 · 22 ÷ 11 = 2 · 12 ÷ 4 = 3 · 45 ÷ 5 = 9 · 110 ÷ 11 = 10 · 24 ÷ 4 = 6 · 96 ÷ 8 = 12 · 45 ÷ 9 = 5 · 64 ÷ 8 = 8