



The Mystery of the Missing Golden Softball

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

Detective: _____ Date: _____

The biggest game of the year is about to start, but someone has stolen the Golden Championship Softball! The umpire found muddy footprints leading away from the trophy case. We need to solve the math puzzles, gather clues, and find out which player took the golden ball before the final inning!

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 Base Burglar is _____

Possible suspects

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

NAME	BEST SKILL	SPECIAL GEAR	BATTING STANCE	HAIR STYLE	FIELD OBSTACLE
Maya Brady	Outfield glider	Super grip pine tar	Left handed batting stance	Curly bubble ponytail	Bright stadium lights
Piper Presley	Base stealer	Super grip pine tar	Left handed batting stance	High braided ponytail	Bright stadium lights
Haylie McCleney	Power hitter	Weighted batting gloves	Right handed batting stance	High braided ponytail	Bright stadium lights
Chloe Coyle	Outfield glider	Golden cleat spikes	Left handed batting stance	High braided ponytail	Loud air horns
Valerie Cagle	Base stealer	Glow in the dark bat	Left handed batting stance	Curly bubble ponytail	Loud air horns
Aliyah Andrews	Bunt master	Super grip pine tar	Left handed batting stance	Curly bubble ponytail	Loud air horns
Jayda Coleman	Fastpitch fireballer	Super grip pine tar	Left handed batting stance	Slicked back visor bun	Soggy infield clay
Jennie Finch	Base stealer	Weighted batting gloves	Left handed batting stance	Curly bubble ponytail	Loud air horns
Jocelyn Alo	Base stealer	Glow in the dark bat	Left handed batting stance	High braided ponytail	Loud air horns
Rachel Garcia	Base stealer	High tech radar visor	Right handed batting stance	Slicked back visor bun	Bright stadium lights
Cat Osterman	Fastpitch fireballer	Super grip pine tar	Left handed batting stance	Slicked back visor bun	Bright stadium lights
Bailey Bunt	Base stealer	Weighted batting gloves	Right handed batting stance	Curly bubble ponytail	Loud air horns
Tiare Jennings	Power hitter	Super grip pine tar	Right handed batting stance	Slicked back visor bun	Loud air horns
NiJaree Canady	Power hitter	Glow in the dark bat	Right handed batting stance	Slicked back visor bun	Loud air horns
Sierra Romero	Power hitter	Golden cleat spikes	Left handed batting stance	Curly bubble ponytail	Loud air horns
Sis Bates	Base stealer	High tech radar visor	Left handed batting stance	Curly bubble ponytail	Loud air horns
Montana Fouts	Bunt master	High tech radar visor	Left handed batting stance	Slicked back visor bun	Soggy infield clay
Kelly Barnhill	Outfield glider	Super grip pine tar	Right handed batting stance	Curly bubble ponytail	Soggy infield clay
Keilani Ricketts	Fastpitch fireballer	Weighted batting gloves	Right handed batting stance	Curly bubble ponytail	Loud air horns
Kinzie Hansen	Base stealer	Weighted batting gloves	Left handed batting stance	Slicked back visor bun	Bright stadium lights
Skylar Wallace	Bunt master	Golden cleat spikes	Right handed batting stance	Curly bubble ponytail	Loud air horns

CLUE 1 Addition

To find the first clue we need to count the softballs in the dugout. Help the coach tally the buckets of yellow balls.

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

T 6068	3170	5656	T 6068	3170	9419	5656	6590	6142	3485	5656	5992	7970	3485	T 6068	9324	5656	8058	4528
8058	4528	8058	6142	8058	4528	4314	9419	5992	3485	4528								

$3177 + 2891 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{T}}$

$6143 + 3276 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{I}}$

$5058 + 4266 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{W}}$

$3790 + 4180 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{N}}$

$1979 + 2335 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{V}}$

$4741 + 3317 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{A}}$

$2507 + 3149 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{E}}$

$1961 + 4031 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{S}}$

$1529 + 2999 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{R}}$

$2318 + 4272 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{F}}$

$2688 + 3454 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{D}}$

$1464 + 2021 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{O}}$

$1407 + 1763 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{H}}$

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Rounding

The radar gun caught a fast throw but the digital screen is cracked. Round the speed to the nearest ten to clear the screen.

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

L																				
170	70	20	230	3700	20	5000	5000	230	110	50	700	4300	230	3000	90	70	50	70		

L																				
170	70	20	230	700	4300	230	130	70	1100	5000	290									

Round 167 to the nearest ten → **L**

Round 133 to the nearest ten → **H**

Round 5,120 to the nearest thousand → **O**

Round 74 to the nearest ten → **E**

Round 290 to the nearest ten → **X**

Round 86 to the nearest ten → **W**

Round 3,669 to the nearest hundred → **Y**

Round 4,326 to the nearest hundred → **N**

Round 690 to the nearest hundred → **I**

Round 54 to the nearest ten → **R**

Round 228 to the nearest ten → **T**

Round 1,089 to the nearest hundred → **B**

Round 16 to the nearest ten → **F**

Round 111 to the nearest ten → **P**

Round 3,035 to the nearest thousand → **S**

Scratch space:

CLUE 3
Subtraction

The team lost some batting helmets when the gear bag spilled. Subtract the missing gear to see what is left.

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

T																				
6544	5810	6263	8374	8424	8374	4108	6263	1242	6544	8374	5810	6319	5625	5066	2981	5625	3013	5625	1737	
5831	6319	7947	3440	7873	7947	8424	5758	5810	7947	6319	5066	8374								

$7305 - 761 = \square \rightarrow \text{T}$

$8856 - 3025 = \square \rightarrow \text{F}$

$7219 - 3111 = \square \rightarrow \text{P}$

$9385 - 961 = \square \rightarrow \text{U}$

$8250 - 377 = \square \rightarrow \text{L}$

$11113 - 3166 = \square \rightarrow \text{O}$

$8435 - 2116 = \square \rightarrow \text{R}$

$10048 - 1674 = \square \rightarrow \text{S}$

$5781 - 4539 = \square \rightarrow \text{C}$

$7254 - 4241 = \square \rightarrow \text{W}$

$9601 - 3791 = \square \rightarrow \text{H}$

$4842 - 3105 = \square \rightarrow \text{Y}$

$6989 - 4008 = \square \rightarrow \text{K}$

$7407 - 3967 = \square \rightarrow \text{M}$

$8195 - 1932 = \square \rightarrow \text{E}$

$6344 - 586 = \square \rightarrow \text{D}$

$6001 - 935 = \square \rightarrow \text{N}$

$7804 - 2179 = \square \rightarrow \text{A}$

Scratch space:

CLUE 4
Multiplication facts (1-12)

The grandstands are packed with cheering fans. Multiply the number of rows by the seats in each row to find the total.

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

W																
99	42	7	56	60	120	3	28	54	60	120	44	121	6	25	110	70
27	110	42	28	7	56	70	25	30	60	30	30	14	42			

$9 \times 11 = \square \rightarrow \text{W}$

$11 \times 11 = \square \rightarrow \text{Y}$

$2 \times 7 = \square \rightarrow \text{L}$

$4 \times 7 = \square \rightarrow \text{S}$

$3 \times 10 = \square \rightarrow \text{B}$

$9 \times 6 = \square \rightarrow \text{P}$

$4 \times 11 = \square \rightarrow \text{K}$

$12 \times 5 = \square \rightarrow \text{U}$

$10 \times 12 = \square \rightarrow \text{N}$

$6 \times 7 = \square \rightarrow \text{E}$

$3 \times 9 = \square \rightarrow \text{T}$

$7 \times 8 = \square \rightarrow \text{O}$

$1 \times 7 = \square \rightarrow \text{F}$

$11 \times 10 = \square \rightarrow \text{I}$

$2 \times 3 = \square \rightarrow \text{H}$

$10 \times 7 = \square \rightarrow \text{R}$

$1 \times 3 = \square \rightarrow \text{D}$

$5 \times 5 = \square \rightarrow \text{A}$

Scratch space:

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

The umpire wants to share orange slices evenly with the outfielders. Divide the slices to get the final 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:

$77 \div 11 = \boxed{}$

$28 \div 7 = \boxed{}$

$70 \div 7 = \boxed{}$

$12 \div 2 = \boxed{}$

$16 \div 8 = \boxed{}$

$6 \div 2 = \boxed{}$

$99 \div 11 = \boxed{}$

$12 \div 1 = \boxed{}$

$20 \div 4 = \boxed{}$

$6 \div 6 = \boxed{}$

$40 \div 5 = \boxed{}$

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain slid safely into third base, then wiped pine tar on the bench.
2. The villain threw a blinding fastpitch softball, then dropped heavy batting gloves.
3. The villain slid safely into third base, then checked their high tech radar visor.
4. The villain slid safely into third base, then dropped heavy batting gloves.
5. The villain slid safely into third base, then left shiny cleat marks in the dirt.
6. The villain hit a massive home run ball, then swung a glowing bat to escape.
7. The villain executed a sneaky drag bunt, then wiped pine tar on the bench.
8. The villain threw a blinding fastpitch softball, then checked their high tech radar visor.
9. The villain executed a sneaky drag bunt, then dropped heavy batting gloves.
10. The villain hit a massive home run ball, then left shiny cleat marks in the dirt.
11. The villain slid safely into third base, then swung a glowing bat to escape.
12. The villain made a diving catch in center field, then left shiny cleat marks in the dirt.

Answer Key

The Mystery of the Missing Golden Softball

Culprit: Valerie Cagle

Base stealer · Glow in the dark bat · Left handed batting stance · Curly bubble ponytail · Loud air horns

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 18 → Clue 2 11 → Clue 3 6 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Addition): "THE THIEF DOES NOT WEAR A RADAR VISOR"

$3177 + 2891 = 6068$ (T) · $6143 + 3276 = 9419$ (I) · $5058 + 4266 = 9324$ (W) · $3790 + 4180 = 7970$ (N) · $1979 + 2335 = 4314$ (V) · $4741 + 3317 = 8058$ (A) · $2507 + 3149 = 5656$ (E) · $1961 + 4031 = 5992$ (S) · $1529 + 2999 = 4528$ (R) · $2318 + 4272 = 6590$ (F) · $2688 + 3454 = 6142$ (D) · $1464 + 2021 = 3485$ (O) · $1407 + 1763 = 3170$ (H)

Clue 2 (Rounding): "LEFTY FOOTPRINTS WERE LEFT IN THE BOX"

Round 167 to the nearest ten = 170 (L) · Round 133 to the nearest ten = 130 (H) · Round 5,120 to the nearest thousand = 5000 (O) · Round 74 to the nearest ten = 70 (E) · Round 290 to the nearest ten = 290 (X) · Round 86 to the nearest ten = 90 (W) · Round 3,669 to the nearest hundred = 3700 (Y) · Round 4,326 to the nearest hundred = 4300 (N) · Round 690 to the nearest hundred = 700 (I) · Round 54 to the nearest ten = 50 (R) · Round 228 to the nearest ten = 230 (T) · Round 1,089 to the nearest hundred = 1100 (B) · Round 16 to the nearest ten = 20 (F) · Round 111 to the nearest ten = 110 (P) · Round 3,035 to the nearest thousand = 3000 (S)

Clue 3 (Subtraction): "THE SUSPECT SHRANK AWAY FROM LOUD HORNS"

$7305 - 761 = 6544$ (T) · $8856 - 3025 = 5831$ (F) · $7219 - 3111 = 4108$ (P) · $9385 - 961 = 8424$ (U) · $8250 - 377 = 7873$ (L) · $11113 - 3166 = 7947$ (O) · $8435 - 2116 = 6319$ (R) · $10048 - 1674 = 8374$ (S) · $5781 - 4539 = 1242$ (C) · $7254 - 4241 = 3013$ (W) · $9601 - 3791 = 5810$ (H) · $4842 - 3105 = 1737$ (Y) · $6989 - 4008 = 2981$ (K) · $7407 - 3967 = 3440$ (M) · $8195 - 1932 = 6263$ (E) · $6344 - 586 = 5758$ (D) · $6001 - 935 = 5066$ (N) · $7804 - 2179 = 5625$ (A)

Clue 4 (Multiplication facts (1-12)): "WE FOUND SPUNKY HAIR TIES FOR A BUBBLE"

$9 \times 11 = 99$ (W) · $11 \times 11 = 121$ (Y) · $2 \times 7 = 14$ (L) · $4 \times 7 = 28$ (S) · $3 \times 10 = 30$ (B) · $9 \times 6 = 54$ (P) · $4 \times 11 = 44$ (K) · $12 \times 5 = 60$ (U) · $10 \times 12 = 120$ (N) · $6 \times 7 = 42$ (E) · $3 \times 9 = 27$ (T) · $7 \times 8 = 56$ (O) · $1 \times 7 = 7$ (F) · $11 \times 10 = 110$ (I) · $2 \times 3 = 6$ (H) · $10 \times 7 = 70$ (R) · $1 \times 3 = 3$ (D) · $5 \times 5 = 25$ (A)

Clue 5 (Division facts (1-12)): surviving statement is box 11 → Valerie Cagle

$77 \div 11 = 7$ · $28 \div 7 = 4$ · $70 \div 7 = 10$ · $12 \div 2 = 6$ · $16 \div 8 = 2$ · $6 \div 2 = 3$ · $99 \div 11 = 9$ · $12 \div 1 = 12$ · $20 \div 4 = 5$ · $6 \div 6 = 1$ · $40 \div 5 = 8$