



The Mystery of the Missing World Series Trophy

Grade 8 math · Addition, Multiplication, Rounding, Word problems, Division · Reading level grades 7-9

Detective: _____ **Date:** _____

Right before the championship pitch, the coveted Golden Bat trophy vanished from the Diamond Park clubhouse. The detective needs to analyze baseball statistics and game evidence to catch the thief.

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 culprit is _____

Possible suspects

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

NAME	MAIN SKILL	SPECIALTY	BATTING STANCE	CAP HAIR COLOR	PITCH WEAKNESS
Shohei Ohtani	diving catches	bat speed	left handed batter	brown hair	high fastball
Mike Trout	power hitting	bat speed	left handed batter	black hair	high fastball
Babe Ruth	diving catches	knuckleball	left handed batter	brown hair	changeup pitch
Sandy Koufax	radar tracking	laser arm	left handed batter	black hair	changeup pitch
Randy Johnson	diving catches	knuckleball	right handed batter	brown hair	changeup pitch
Clayton Kershaw	curveball pitch	sliding catch	left handed batter	brown hair	changeup pitch
Derek Jeter	curveball pitch	sliding catch	right handed batter	brown hair	high fastball
Pedro Martinez	power hitting	golden glove	right handed batter	brown hair	changeup pitch
Aaron Judge	diving catches	bat speed	right handed batter	brown hair	changeup pitch
Hank Aaron	curveball pitch	sliding catch	right handed batter	blonde hair	changeup pitch
Mickey Mantle	curveball pitch	laser arm	right handed batter	brown hair	changeup pitch
Justin Verlander	radar tracking	laser arm	right handed batter	black hair	changeup pitch
Greg Maddux	curveball pitch	knuckleball	left handed batter	black hair	changeup pitch
Ken Griffey	fast stealing	golden glove	left handed batter	brown hair	spitball
Ted Williams	fast stealing	sliding catch	right handed batter	blonde hair	spitball
Jackie Robinson	power hitting	sliding catch	right handed batter	brown hair	spitball
Mookie Betts	radar tracking	knuckleball	right handed batter	blonde hair	changeup pitch
Willie Mays	radar tracking	golden glove	right handed batter	brown hair	changeup pitch
Bryce Harper	power hitting	sliding catch	right handed batter	blonde hair	spitball
Freddie Freeman	curveball pitch	knuckleball	right handed batter	brown hair	spitball
Cal Ripken	radar tracking	sliding catch	right handed batter	black hair	spitball

CLUE 1 **Addition**

The clubhouse attendant tallied the total practice swings taken across both cages to uncover the first clue.

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

6495 6805 8264 4398 5252 6057 6057 7875 5252 7227 2221 6746 8264 8343 7227 6746 6495

6805 7875 4398 8264 3667 7875 6495 8343 5031 8264 8264 2221

$$2534 + 3961 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{T}}$$

$$2794 + 2237 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{P}}$$

$1170 + 2497 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{B}}$

$$2139 + 3113 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{I}}$$

$$5166 + 3098 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{E}}$$

$$2276 + 3781 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{L}}$$

$$1499 + 722 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{D}}$$

$4226 + 3649 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\mathbf{A}}$

$$3182 + 3564 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{0}$$

$$2440 + 4787 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{N}}$$

$$1777 + 2621 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\mathbf{v}}$$

$$3394 + 3411 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{H}}$$

$$3601 + 4742 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{S}}$$

Scratch space:

CLUE 2
Multiplication facts (1-12)

Analyzing the seating chart grid across multiple stadium sections revealed a hidden message in the ticket count.

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

T					T													T
64	121	40	21	77	64	56	40	54	54	54	66	21	66	110	77	36	121	64
								T	T									
121	66	56	120	40	120	16	66	64	64	40	110							

$8 \times 8 = \square \rightarrow \text{T}$

$5 \times 8 = \square \rightarrow \text{E}$

$6 \times 11 = \square \rightarrow \text{A}$

$4 \times 4 = \square \rightarrow \text{B}$

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

$7 \times 3 = \square \rightarrow \text{W}$

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

$4 \times 9 = \square \rightarrow \text{G}$

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

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

$7 \times 11 = \square \rightarrow \text{I}$

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

Scratch space:

Rounding

The stadium radar gun rounded pitch velocities to the nearest ten to display a coded readout.

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

Round 374 to the nearest ten $\rightarrow$ **T**

Round 3,683 to the nearest hundred → **N**

Round 2,865 to the nearest hundred $\rightarrow$ **U**

Round 500 to the nearest hundred $\rightarrow$ **E**

Round 329 to the nearest hundred → **A**

Round 8,616 to the nearest thousand → **C**

Round 34 to the nearest ten $\rightarrow$ **R**

Round 7,271 to the nearest thousand → **G**

Round 5,174 to the nearest thousand → **H**

Round 676 to the nearest hundred $\rightarrow$

Round 895 to the nearest hundred $\rightarrow$ **P**

Round 1,287 to the nearest hundred $\rightarrow$ **S**

Round 1,130 to the nearest hundred $\rightarrow$

Round 2,869 to the nearest thousand $\rightarrow$ **K**

Scratch space:

CLUE 4

Word problems

Solving the managers tactical pitch count problem unlocked the vault locker code.

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

A strand of B I hair turned up at the scene.

111 97 19 81 20 82 76 97

There were 114 lineup cards. 3 were used up. How many lineup cards are left?

Answer: → B

There were 85 baseballs. 3 were used up. How many baseballs are left?

Answer: → H

Equipment manager found 60 pine tar rags yesterday and 21 more today. How many pine tar rags in all?

Answer: → W

Equipment manager found 40 pine tar rags yesterday and 36 more today. How many pine tar rags in all?

Answer: → A

Equipment manager found 17 baseballs yesterday and 2 more today. How many baseballs in all?

Answer: → O

Equipment manager found 17 batting helmets yesterday and 3 more today. How many batting helmets in all?

Answer: → N

There were 100 baseballs. 3 were used up. How many baseballs are left?

Answer: → R

Scratch space:

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

Dividing the supply of game balls equally among the bullpen pitchers yielded the final decoded lead.

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:

$77 \div 11 = \boxed{}$

$12 \div 12 = \boxed{}$

$33 \div 3 = \boxed{}$

$60 \div 10 = \boxed{}$

$96 \div 12 = \boxed{}$

$100 \div 10 = \boxed{}$

$10 \div 5 = \boxed{}$

$10 \div 2 = \boxed{}$

$81 \div 9 = \boxed{}$

$24 \div 2 = \boxed{}$

$12 \div 3 = \boxed{}$

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain scouted with radar tracking, then flashed a golden glove.
2. The villain threw a curveball pitch, then swung with bat speed.
3. The villain leaped for diving catches, then threw a knuckleball.
4. The villain swung with power hitting, then made a sliding catch.
5. The villain scouted with radar tracking, then swung with bat speed.
6. The villain leaped for diving catches, then showed off a laser arm.
7. The villain swung with power hitting, then flashed a golden glove.
8. The villain leaped for diving catches, then flashed a golden glove.
9. The villain scouted with radar tracking, then made a sliding catch.
10. The villain threw a curveball pitch, then threw a knuckleball.
11. The villain threw a curveball pitch, then showed off a laser arm.
12. The villain sprinted for fast stealing, then showed off a laser arm.

Answer Key

The Mystery of the Missing World Series Trophy

Culprit: Randy Johnson

diving catches · knuckleball · right handed batter · brown hair · changeup pitch

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 18 → Clue 2 13 → Clue 3 7 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Addition): "THE VILLAIN DOES NOT HAVE BAT SPEED"

$2534 + 3961 = 6495$ (T) · $2794 + 2237 = 5031$ (P) · $1170 + 2497 = 3667$ (B) · $2139 + 3113 = 5252$ (I) · $5166 + 3098 = 8264$ (E) · $2276 + 3781 = 6057$ (L) · $1499 + 722 = 2221$ (D) · $4226 + 3649 = 7875$ (A) · $3182 + 3564 = 6746$ (O) · $2440 + 4787 = 7227$ (N) · $1777 + 2621 = 4398$ (V) · $3394 + 3411 = 6805$ (H) · $3601 + 4742 = 8343$ (S)

Clue 2 (Multiplication facts (1-12)): "THE WITNESS SAW A RIGHT HANDED BATTER"

$8 \times 8 = 64$ (T) · $5 \times 8 = 40$ (E) · $6 \times 11 = 66$ (A) · $4 \times 4 = 16$ (B) · $9 \times 6 = 54$ (S) · $7 \times 3 = 21$ (W) · $7 \times 8 = 56$ (N) · $4 \times 9 = 36$ (G) · $10 \times 12 = 120$ (D) · $11 \times 11 = 121$ (H) · $7 \times 11 = 77$ (I) · $10 \times 11 = 110$ (R)

Clue 3 (Rounding): "THE SUSPECT STRUCK OUT ON A CHANGEUP PITCH"

Round 374 to the nearest ten = 370 (T) · Round 3,683 to the nearest hundred = 3700 (N) · Round 2,865 to the nearest hundred = 2900 (U) · Round 500 to the nearest hundred = 500 (E) · Round 329 to the nearest hundred = 300 (A) · Round 8,616 to the nearest thousand = 9000 (C) · Round 34 to the nearest ten = 30 (R) · Round 7,271 to the nearest thousand = 7000 (G) · Round 5,174 to the nearest thousand = 5000 (H) · Round 676 to the nearest hundred = 700 (I) · Round 895 to the nearest hundred = 900 (P) · Round 1,287 to the nearest hundred = 1300 (S) · Round 1,130 to the nearest hundred = 1100 (O) · Round 2,869 to the nearest thousand = 3000 (K)

Clue 4 (Word problems): "BROWN HAIR"

There were 114 lineup cards. 3 were used up. How many lineup cards are left? = 111 (B) · There were 85 baseballs. 3 were used up. How many baseballs are left? = 82 (H) · Equipment manager found 60 pine tar rags yesterday and 21 more today. How many pine tar rags in all? = 81 (W) · Equipment manager found 40 pine tar rags yesterday and 36 more today. How many pine tar rags in all? = 76 (A) · Equipment manager found 17 baseballs yesterday and 2 more today. How many baseballs in all? = 19 (O) · Equipment manager found 17 batting helmets yesterday and 3 more today. How many batting helmets in all? = 20 (N) · There were 100 baseballs. 3 were used up. How many baseballs are left? = 97 (R)

Clue 5 (Division facts (1-12)): surviving statement is box 3 → Randy Johnson

$77 \div 11 = 7$ · $12 \div 12 = 1$ · $33 \div 3 = 11$ · $60 \div 10 = 6$ · $96 \div 12 = 8$ · $100 \div 10 = 10$ · $10 \div 5 = 2$ · $10 \div 2 = 5$ · $81 \div 9 = 9$ · $24 \div 2 = 12$ · $12 \div 3 = 4$