



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 game seven of the championship series, the trophy vanished from the display case behind home plate. The thief left subtle hints around the dugout, bullpen, and outfield fence. Decode the evidence to identify the culprit before first pitch.

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 intruder is _____

Possible suspects

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

NAME	BATTING STYLE	FAVORITE GEAR	THROWING HAND	HAIR STYLE	PITCH WEAKNESS
Cal Ripken	Bunt Tactics	Resin Bag	Right Handed Thrower	Red Cap Hair	High Heat Pitch
Stan Musial	Heavy Bat Swing	Weighted Donut	Left Handed Thrower	Blonde Buzzcut	High Heat Pitch
Jackie Robinson	Curveball Mastery	Resin Bag	Right Handed Thrower	Blonde Buzzcut	High Heat Pitch
Pedro Martinez	Heavy Bat Swing	Cleat Spikes	Right Handed Thrower	Dark Ponytail	High Heat Pitch
Derek Jeter	Bunt Tactics	Cleat Spikes	Left Handed Thrower	Red Cap Hair	Changeup Surprise
Willie Mays	Switch Hitting	Radar Gun Tracker	Right Handed Thrower	Blonde Buzzcut	Slider Away
Hank Aaron	Bunt Tactics	Weighted Donut	Right Handed Thrower	Blonde Buzzcut	Slider Away
Cy Young	Heavy Bat Swing	Resin Bag	Left Handed Thrower	Dark Ponytail	High Heat Pitch
Mike Trout	Bunt Tactics	Weighted Donut	Left Handed Thrower	Dark Ponytail	Slider Away
Nolan Ryan	Heavy Bat Swing	Cleat Spikes	Right Handed Thrower	Red Cap Hair	Slider Away
Roberto Clemente	Curveball Mastery	Resin Bag	Right Handed Thrower	Dark Ponytail	Changeup Surprise
Yogi Berra	Heavy Bat Swing	Cleat Spikes	Right Handed Thrower	Blonde Buzzcut	Slider Away
Babe Ruth	Fast Pitch Focus	Weighted Donut	Right Handed Thrower	Red Cap Hair	Slider Away
Lou Gehrig	Bunt Tactics	Resin Bag	Left Handed Thrower	Blonde Buzzcut	Changeup Surprise
Sandy Koufax	Heavy Bat Swing	Resin Bag	Right Handed Thrower	Blonde Buzzcut	Slider Away
Shohei Ohtani	Curveball Mastery	Radar Gun Tracker	Right Handed Thrower	Blonde Buzzcut	High Heat Pitch
Ted Williams	Fast Pitch Focus	Resin Bag	Left Handed Thrower	Blonde Buzzcut	Slider Away
Greg Maddux	Curveball Mastery	Radar Gun Tracker	Left Handed Thrower	Dark Ponytail	Changeup Surprise
Ernie Banks	Bunt Tactics	Resin Bag	Right Handed Thrower	Red Cap Hair	Slider Away
Mookie Betts	Fast Pitch Focus	Weighted Donut	Right Handed Thrower	Red Cap Hair	High Heat Pitch
Ken Griffey	Fast Pitch Focus	Radar Gun Tracker	Right Handed Thrower	Blonde Buzzcut	Slider Away

CLUE 1 Addition

To tally the baseballs recovered from each dugout, add the counts together.

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

The diagram shows two rows of boxes representing numbers. The top row contains three groups of three boxes each, followed by a group of four boxes, and finally a group of three boxes. The bottom row contains three groups of three boxes each, followed by a group of four boxes, and finally a group of three boxes. In the top row, the first box of the first group and the second box of the fourth group are highlighted orange and labeled 'T'. In the bottom row, the fifth box of the second group is highlighted orange and labeled 'T'.

T							T										T
4037	6985	6981	2073	3299	2073	2802	6981	7575	4037	5678	5325	6981	2073	3915	5325	4037	
							T										
3299	2073	6981	7575	9823	6981	3313	4037	2073	2802	7179	4337	6981	2073				

$1737 + 2300 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{T}}$

$$3789 + 3196 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{H}}$$

$$1458 + 1841 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{U}}$$

$$2817 + 2861 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{D}}$$

$645 + 1428 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{S}}$

$$2187 + 1126 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\mathbf{A}}$$

$2286 + 4695 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{E}}$

$$3180 + 3999 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{}$$

$$3640 + 6183 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{L}}$$

$$1256 + 2659 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{N}}$$

$$3542 + 1783 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{0}$$

$$2840 + 1497 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{K}}$$

$$1376 + 1426 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{P}}$$

$$4450 + 3125 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{C}}$$

Scratch space:

CLUE 2

Multiplication facts (1-12)

The maintenance team multiplied the number of seat rows by seat counts to locate missing gear.

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

W												W					
16	15	33	90	84	110	110	84	110	110	24	16	24	96	15	72	60	33

										W		
60	24	90	108	84	108	33	60	96	27	16	84	96

$8 \times 2 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{W}}$

$3 \times 8 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{A}}$

$9 \times 10 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{N}}$

$3 \times 9 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{O}}$

$9 \times 12 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{D}}$

$9 \times 8 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{G}}$

$12 \times 7 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{E}}$

$5 \times 3 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{I}}$

$10 \times 6 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{H}}$

$8 \times 12 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{R}}$

$11 \times 10 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{S}}$

$3 \times 11 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{T}}$

Scratch space:

CLUE 3

Rounding

The digital radar gun on the outfield wall rounded pitch speeds to find the suspect's trace.

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

T																		
5000	170	50	430	230	200	9000	1700	20	900	7000	9000	230	3700	2300	50	4300	7000	1100
20	900	9000	130	4300	50	500	20	1700	20	1100								

Round 4,685 to the nearest thousand → **T**

Round 531 to the nearest hundred → **R**

Round 1,742 to the nearest hundred → **W**

Round 4,334 to the nearest hundred → **D**

Round 22 to the nearest ten → **A**

Round 430 to the nearest ten → **F**

Round 6,659 to the nearest thousand → **B**

Round 881 to the nearest hundred → **S**

Round 174 to the nearest ten → **H**

Round 130 to the nearest ten → **I**

Round 230 to the nearest ten → **O**

Round 2,293 to the nearest hundred → **K**

Round 3,739 to the nearest hundred → **C**

Round 154 to the nearest hundred → **U**

Round 8,756 to the nearest thousand → **L**

Round 1,083 to the nearest hundred → **Y**

Round 51 to the nearest ten → **E**

Scratch space:

CLUE 4

Word problems

Solve the word problems written on the manager's lineup card to crack this clue.

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

A strand of B B Z Z C T hair turned up at the scene.

Stadium manager found 45 signed baseballs yesterday and 49 more today. How many signed baseballs in all?

Answer: → B

There were 74 pine tar rags. 11 were used up. How many pine tar rags are left?

Answer: → E

Stadium manager lined up 11 rows of 4 signed baseballs. How many signed baseballs in all?

Answer: → U

There were 74 sunflower seed bags. 37 were used up. How many sunflower seed bags are left?

Answer: → L

Stadium manager found 50 sunflower seed bags yesterday and 47 more today. How many sunflower seed bags in all?

Answer: → D

Stadium manager found 45 signed baseballs yesterday and 74 more today. How many signed baseballs in all?

Answer: → O

Stadium manager lined up 12 rows of 5 pine tar rags. How many pine tar rags in all?

Answer: → N

Scratch space:

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

Divide the batch of team vouchers equally among the bullpen staff to unlock the final piece.

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:

$32 \div 8 = \boxed{}$

$24 \div 8 = \boxed{}$

$121 \div 11 = \boxed{}$

$18 \div 3 = \boxed{}$

$108 \div 12 = \boxed{}$

$40 \div 5 = \boxed{}$

$60 \div 6 = \boxed{}$

$132 \div 11 = \boxed{}$

$10 \div 2 = \boxed{}$

$84 \div 12 = \boxed{}$

$8 \div 4 = \boxed{}$

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain demonstrated switch hitting, then checked the radar gun tracker.
2. The villain used a heavy bat swing, then swung the weighted donut.
3. The villain executed bunt tactics, then swung the weighted donut.
4. The villain focused on a fast pitch, then checked the radar gun tracker.
5. The villain focused on a fast pitch, then laced up cleat spikes.
6. The villain used a heavy bat swing, then laced up cleat spikes.
7. The villain executed bunt tactics, then applied pine tar grip.
8. The villain focused on a fast pitch, then applied pine tar grip.
9. The villain focused on a fast pitch, then dusted the resin bag.
10. The villain executed bunt tactics, then checked the radar gun tracker.
11. The villain used a heavy bat swing, then dusted the resin bag.
12. The villain demonstrated switch hitting, then swung the weighted donut.

Answer Key

The Mystery of the Missing World Series Trophy

Culprit: Willie Mays

Switch Hitting · Radar Gun Tracker · Right Handed Thrower · Blonde Buzzcut · Slider Away

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

Clue 1 (Addition): "THE SUSPECT DOES NOT USE CLEAT SPIKES"

$1737 + 2300 = 4037$ (T) · $3789 + 3196 = 6985$ (H) · $1458 + 1841 = 3299$ (U) · $2817 + 2861 = 5678$ (D) · $645 + 1428 = 2073$ (S) · $2187 + 1126 = 3313$ (A) · $2286 + 4695 = 6981$ (E) · $3180 + 3999 = 7179$ (I) · $3640 + 6183 = 9823$ (L) · $1256 + 2659 = 3915$ (N) · $3542 + 1783 = 5325$ (O) · $2840 + 1497 = 4337$ (K) · $1376 + 1426 = 2802$ (P) · $4450 + 3125 = 7575$ (C)

Clue 2 (Multiplication facts (1-12)): "WITNESSES SAW A RIGHT HANDED THROWER"

$8 \times 2 = 16$ (W) · $3 \times 8 = 24$ (A) · $9 \times 10 = 90$ (N) · $3 \times 9 = 27$ (O) · $9 \times 12 = 108$ (D) · $9 \times 8 = 72$ (G) · $12 \times 7 = 84$ (E) · $5 \times 3 = 15$ (I) · $10 \times 6 = 60$ (H) · $8 \times 12 = 96$ (R) · $11 \times 10 = 110$ (S) · $3 \times 11 = 33$ (T)

Clue 3 (Rounding): "THE FOUL WAS BLOCKED BY A SLIDER AWAY"

Round 4,685 to the nearest thousand = 5000 (T) · Round 531 to the nearest hundred = 500 (R) · Round 1,742 to the nearest hundred = 1700 (W) · Round 4,334 to the nearest hundred = 4300 (D) · Round 22 to the nearest ten = 20 (A) · Round 430 to the nearest ten = 430 (F) · Round 6,659 to the nearest thousand = 7000 (B) · Round 881 to the nearest hundred = 900 (S) · Round 174 to the nearest ten = 170 (H) · Round 130 to the nearest ten = 130 (I) · Round 230 to the nearest ten = 230 (O) · Round 2,293 to the nearest hundred = 2300 (K) · Round 3,739 to the nearest hundred = 3700 (C) · Round 154 to the nearest hundred = 200 (U) · Round 8,756 to the nearest thousand = 9000 (L) · Round 1,083 to the nearest hundred = 1100 (Y) · Round 51 to the nearest ten = 50 (E)

Clue 4 (Word problems): "BLONDE BUZZCUT"

Stadium manager found 45 signed baseballs yesterday and 49 more today. How many signed baseballs in all? = 94 (B) · There were 74 pine tar rags. 11 were used up. How many pine tar rags are left? = 63 (E) · Stadium manager lined up 11 rows of 4 signed baseballs. How many signed baseballs in all? = 44 (U) · There were 74 sunflower seed bags. 37 were used up. How many sunflower seed bags are left? = 37 (L) · Stadium manager found 50 sunflower seed bags yesterday and 47 more today. How many sunflower seed bags in all? = 97 (D) · Stadium manager found 45 signed baseballs yesterday and 74 more today. How many signed baseballs in all? = 119 (O) · Stadium manager lined up 12 rows of 5 pine tar rags. How many pine tar rags in all? = 60 (N)

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

$32 \div 8 = 4$ · $24 \div 8 = 3$ · $121 \div 11 = 11$ · $18 \div 3 = 6$ · $108 \div 12 = 9$ · $40 \div 5 = 8$ · $60 \div 6 = 10$ · $132 \div 11 = 12$ · $10 \div 2 = 5$ · $84 \div 12 = 7$ · $8 \div 4 = 2$